

Jan Poelaert studied medicine in the University of Ghent, Belgium. Subsequently he completed anesthesiology residency training at the Ghent University Hospital, OLV Ziekenhuis Aalst and the Academic Medical Centre in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

After his training, he started as staff member in the department of Intensive Care Medicine and became responsible of the unit of postoperative care after cardiac Surgery.

In 1995, he defended a PhD in the Ghent University with a thesis, entitled "Transoesophageal Echocardiography in Critically Ill Patients. A Comprehensive Approach"

Presently, he is professor of Anesthesiology and chairman at the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, Acute and Chronic Pain Therapy of the University Hospital of Brussels (VUB).

His academic interests have focused on perioperative cardiac function with emphasis on left ventricular systolic and diastolic function, transesophageal echocardiography, ventilator associated and postoperative pneumonia and prevention in the perioperative care, improvement of outcome after major surgery and hemodynamic monitoring strategies.

He has authored and co-authored over 150 articles in peer-reviewed journals and chapters in different textbooks.

He is Editor of the Journal of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Anesthesia.

He is a regular reviewer in various anaesthesia, intensive care and surgical journals.

Jan Poelaert served both the Belgian Society of Intensive Care medicine (SIZ) and the Belgian Society of Anaesthesia and Resuscitation (BSAR) as member of the board and as president. Also, in the European Society of Anesthesiology (ESA) and the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM), he served as chairman of the Subcommittee on Clinical and Experimental Circulation (ESA) and the Section of Cardiovascular Dynamics (ESICM), respectively.