

D. C. Rao, Ph.D., is a Professor of Biostatistics, Genetics, Psychiatry, and Mathematics, and joined the Division of Biostatistics in 1980 as the Director of the Division of Biostatistics at Washington University in St. Louis, School of Medicine. His primary research interest is genetic epidemiology of common complex diseases, with particular emphasis on cardiovascular (CVD) and metabolic diseases and their risk factors, notably high blood pressure and hypertension. Dr. Rao is the PI of several NIH research grants, including Data Coordinating Centers for multicenter family and genetic studies and has published over 650 scientific articles and edited 8 books.

In addition to active research, he is also dedicated to training and mentoring activities. He developed and directs two master's degree programs in biostatistics (MSIBS) and genetic epidemiology (GEMS). He also directs a post-doctoral training program (T32) in cardiovascular genetic epidemiology, and a Summer Institute program (PRIDE) to enhance diversity in the biomedical workforce, both supported by NIH grants.

He is a member and Past-President of the International Genetic Epidemiology Society (IGES, 1996) and was the founding Editor-in-Chief of the society's journal, *Genetic Epidemiology* (1984-91). Dr. Rao received an "IGES Leadership Award" from the IGES in 1997, and a "Champion of Public Health" award from the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, Tulane University, New Orleans, in 2005

Dr. Rao is best recognized for a lifetime of distinguished contributions to advancing and promoting statistics in human genetics and for contributions to training biostatisticians and statistical geneticists. These contributions led to his election as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in 2012 and as a Fellow of the American Statistical Association (ASA) in 2013.