I bear tragic and unexpected news, of a great man and legend in his field. Dr Graham Jackson, sadly, and prematurely, died on the 28th April 2016. He had a debilitating illness which he fought bravely, and without complaint, working and sending messages, right up to the very last minute.

He was a Consultant Cardiologist at London Bridge Hospital, London, and BMI Shirley Oaks Hospital in Croydon, Surrey. Graham’s NHS medical base was as a senior cardiologist at Guy’s and St Thomas’ Hospitals.

His special interest included the detection, management and treatment of sexual dysfunction in cardiac patients. He was the first cardiologist to establish a clinic specifically for patients with sexual dysfunction and cardiovascular disease in the UK.

He was the principal UK investigator in several lipid lowering trials including PROVE-IT and published widely on sex and the heart and on the perils of counterfeit medicines.

He was a member of the International Society for Sexual Medicine Standards Committee and a prominent speaker at the American Heart Association, the American College of Cardiology, and the British/European Society of Cardiology/World Congress of Cardiology meetings, and at many meetings nationally and internationally on sexual problems in cardiac patients.

In 2010 he was appointed president of the World Congress of Men’s Health and continued as president in 2011. He was on the board of the International Society of Men’s Health.

He has for many years been advocating the need for aggressive cardiac risk reduction in men with erectile dysfunction (ED) and no cardiac symptoms, using ED as a means of reducing subsequent cardiac events. He was editor of the book series Difficult Cardiology and has authored numerous books, including Angina in Practice; Sex, the Heart and Erectile Dysfunction; and The Practical Management of Ischaemic Heart Disease. The fourth edition of his book for patients, Heart Health at your Fingertips, was published in 2009. He has published more than 400 papers on cardiology and general medicine and was a well-respected member of several editorial boards. He was also emeritus editor of the International Journal of Clinical Practice after 22 years as editor-in-chief, and chairman of the Sexual Advice Association (www.sexualadviceassociation.co.uk ), a role he loved and really cared about.

His death has shocked and saddened us all and our thoughts are with his family, friends and colleagues who will miss his humour, goodwill, sound advice and caring nature. He is irreplaceable and a great loss to the field of medicine.