



Expanding the horizons in cardiovascular interventions

"It is often through the rigorous review of the literature and critical review of data that we can properly move forward with innovative interventional techniques to better serve our patients."

As Associate Editors of the journal, we are delighted to be able to introduce this issue. We both have a sincere passion for cardiovascular diseases and their interventional management. It is quintessential that we develop a solid foundation from which we can expand our knowledge and treatment selection. It is often through the rigorous review of the literature and critical review of data that we can properly move forward with innovative interventional techniques to better serve our patients.

Along these lines, our friend and colleague, Dr Clavijo and his associates, present research highlights on the SYNTAX score [1]. Drs Di Mario and Secco present an update from the 2009 European Society of Cardiology meeting [2].

In this issue there is one special report and three editorials. These cover the pathology of drug-eluting stents by Dr Virmani *et al.* [3], the relevance of door-to-balloon times in acute myocardial infarctions by Dr Wang *et al.* [4], radiation safety by Dr Rixe *et al.* [5] and catheter-based radiofrequency ablation for atrial fibrillation by Dr Garlitski *et al.* [6].

This issue also includes a perspective and reviews. Dr Bedogni *et al.* present a fascinating perspective on preventing complications of carotid artery stenting [7]. Along this theme, Dr Macdonald from the UK reviews the role

of filter design in embolic protection for carotid artery stenting [8].

There are reviews on structural cardiac interventions. Dr De Wolf presents complications associated with atrial septal defect closure [9] and Dr Block discusses the role of left atrial appendage closure [10]. The technology associated with left ventricular assist devices is rapidly evolving, and Drs Tuseth and Nordrehaug present the role of percutaneous left ventricular assist devices in preventing cerebral ischemia [11]. Dr Meuwissen *et al.* discuss the role of coronary flow reserve in decision analysis of intermediate coronary lesions [12]. Drs Bolia and Adair present their techniques on treating very complex infrapopliteal lesions [13].

We are very excited to introduce this issue on cardiovascular interventions to you.

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