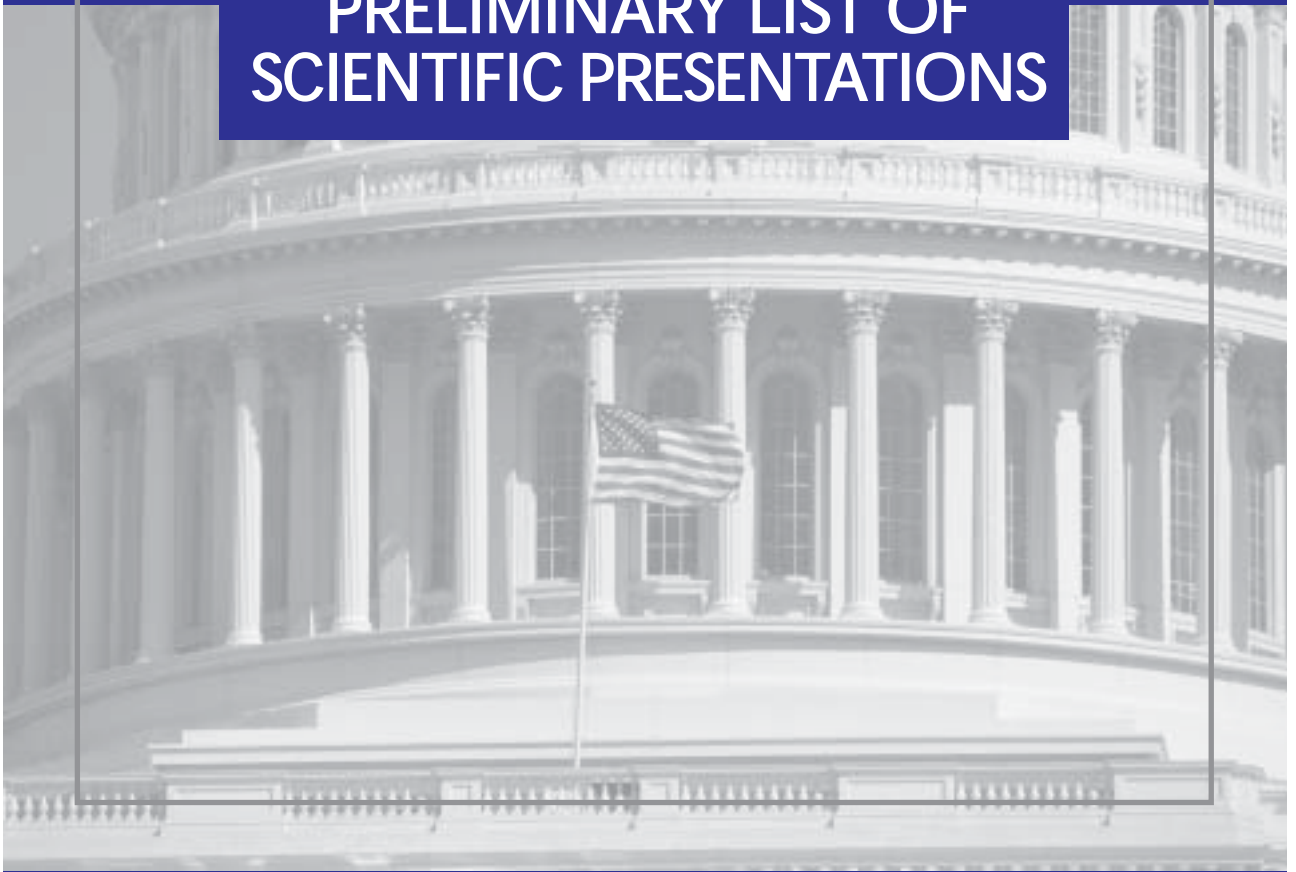




INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF CARDIOLOGY
3rd WORLD CONGRESS ON
HEART DISEASE
- NEW TRENDS IN RESEARCH,
DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT
WASHINGTON, DC, USA, JULY 12-15, 2003

PRELIMINARY LIST OF SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS





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I

▶ **MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY**

Unraveling the Myocardial Interstitium in Heart Failure: Mechanisms and Prospects for Therapy

Francis G. Spinale, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC, U.S.A.

Molecular Control of Cardiac Metabolic Switches: Role of PPAR and Other Nuclear Receptors

Daniel P. Kelly, St. Louis, MO, U.S.A.

Cellular, Ionic, Molecular and Genetic Aspects of the Brugada Syndrome

Charles Antzelevitch, Masonic Medical Research Laboratory, Utica, NY, U.S.A.

The Cause of Dystrophin Disruption, Translocation and Fragmentation in the Progression of Heart Failure

Teruhiko Toyo-oka, University of Tokyo, P/Graduate School of Med., Tokyo, Japan

Protein Kinase and the Progression of Cardiac Disease

Peter M. Buttrick, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL, U.S.A.

Modulation of MMP Expression by Cytokines and Beta Blocker

Matthias Pauschinger, University Hospital Benjamin Franklin, Berlin, Germany

Sarcoplasmic Reticulum Function in Heart Failure Due to Volume Overload

Thomas Netticadan, St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Matrix Metalloproteinases in Heart Failure: Potential for Treatment?

Anique Ducharme, Institut de Cardiologie de Montreal, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

▶ **VASCULAR BIOLOGY, ENDOTHELIAL FUNCTION**

Chronic Inhibition of Nitric Oxide Synthase Induces Hypertension and Cardiomyocyte Mitochondrial Collagen Remodeling in the Absence of Hypertrophy

Marcos A. Rossi, University of Sao Paulo, Ribeirao Preto, S.P., Brazil

Endothelial Protection by Nitrous Oxide and Aspirin: Role of Heme Oxygenase-1 and Ferritin

Henning Schroeder, Martin Luther University School of Pharmacy, Halle (Saale), Germany

▶ **GENETIC STUDIES**

Preventing Progressive Left Ventricular Dilation Is Integral to Normalization of Gene Expression in Heart Failure

Hani N. Sabbah, Henry Ford Heart & Vascular Institute, Detroit, MI, U.S.A.

Genetic Mechanisms of Heart Failure

Jeffrey A. Towbin, Texas Children's Hospital/Baylor College of Med, Houston, TX, U.S.A.

Chip-ping Away at Heart Failure

Choong-Chin Liew, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA, U.S.A.

Genetic Alteration in Natriuretic Peptide Receptor -A Causes Hypertension and Congestive Heart Failure

Kailash Pandey, Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans, LA, U.S.A.

Synergistic Polymorphisms of β_1 - and α_2c -Adrenergic Receptors and the Risk of Congestive Heart Failure

Lynne E. Wagoner, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH, U.S.A.



Differential Gene Expression in the Failing and Rescued Heart
Burns C. Blaxall, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC, U.S.A.

▶ CELL TRANSPLANTATION

Autology Bone Marrow: Results of Clinical Study
Ron Waksman, Washington Cardiology Center, Washington, DC, U.S.A.

Cell Transplantation for Cardiovascular Repair: A Moving Target
Doris Taylor, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC, U.S.A.

Myoblast Cell Transplantation for the Treatment of Congestive Heart Failure
Nabil Dib, Arizona Heart Institute and Hospital, Phoenix, AZ, U.S.A.

Stem Cell Therapy for Myocardial Regeneration: Do We Need Direct Intramyocardial Injection?
Raj R. Makkar, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, U.S.A.

▶ ANGIOGENESIS

Angiogenesis Clinical Trials
Timothy A. Sanborn, Evanston Northwestern Healthcare, Evanston, IL, U.S.A.

Options for No-Option Patients: Complex Interventions, Angiogenesis/Myogenesis
Roger Laham, BIDMC / Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, U.S.A.

▶ ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY

Newer Aspects of Echocardiography
Navin C. Nanda, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL, U.S.A.

Echocardiography in 2003: New Questions, New Challenges, New Answers
Fausto J. Pinto, University Hospital Sta Maria, Lisbon University, Lisboa Codex, Portugal

Role of Miniaturized Echocardiographic Platforms in Clinical Practice
Kirk T. Spencer, University of Chicago Medical Center, Chicago, IL, U.S.A.

New Trends in Postoperative Diagnosis and Treatment Utilizing Substernal Epicardial Echocardiography
Anthony P. Furnary, Oregon Health Sciences University Hospital, Portland, OR, U.S.A.

Feasibility of Simultaneous Echocardiographic Imaging of Myocardial Perfusion and Regional Left Ventricular Function Using Color-Encoded Contrast Enhanced Power Modulation
Jeanne M. DeCara, University of Chicago Medical Center, Chicago, IL, U.S.A.

▶ NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CARDIAC IMAGING

Complementary Roles of Cardiac CT and Nuclear Cardiology in Assessment of the Cardiac Patient
Daniel S. Berman, Cedars Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, U.S.A.

Diagnostic Role of MRI in Congestive Heart Failure
Vinzenz Hombach, Vice-President of the University of Ulm, Ulm, Germany



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NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CARDIAC IMAGING (cont'd)

Noninvasive Detection of Coronary Vasomotor Dysfunction: An Index of Preclinical Atherosclerosis

Heinrich R. Schelbert, University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, U.S.A.

Analysis of the Christmas Trial: Is the Search For Hibernating Myocardium Important?

Avijit Lahiri, Northwick Park Hospital & Instit. for Med. Res., Middlesex, England

Clinical Indications for Coronary CT

Michael Motro, Sheba Medical Center, Tel Hashomer, Israel

Imaging in the Management of the Patient with Heart Failure

Francesco Fedele, Universita' Degli Studi Di Roma "la Sapienza", Roma, Italy

Application of Angioscopy for Diagnosis of Atherosclerosis

Takanobu Tomaru, Toho University Sakura Hospital, Japan

The Wavefront of Myocardial Contraction Revisited

Manel Ballester, Universitat de Lleida, Lleida, Spain

Monitoring the Effectiveness of Medical Therapy for Ischemic Heart Disease with ECG-Gated SPECT Myocardial Perfusion Imaging

Ronald G. Schwartz, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, NY, U.S.A.

Assessment of Myocardial Viability by Cardiac Magnetic Resonance

Luis J. Jimenez-Borreguero, Hospital Universitario Principe Asturias, Madrid, Spain

▶ ATHEROSCLEROSIS: PATHOGENESIS AND TREATMENT

Vaccination for Atherosclerosis Prevention: Promises and Problems

Prediman K. Shah, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, U.S.A.

Pathogen Burden, the Prime Culprit of Atherosclerosis

Junbo Ge, Shanghai Medical University / Zhongshan Hospita, Shanghai, P.R. China

The Vulnerable Plaque: New Insights into Old Morphology

Christian C. Haudenschild, American Red Cross, Rockville, MD, U.S.A.

How Macrophages Get Fat

Howard S. Kruth, NHLBI, NIH, Bethesda, MD, U.S.A.

Antioxidants and Atherosclerosis

Jean-Claude Tardif, Montreal Heart Institute, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Atherosclerosis Regression - A Myth or Reality?

Adarsh Kumar, Govt. Medical College/G.N.D. Hospital, Amritsar, India

▶ EPIDEMIOLOGY OF ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE

Socio-Economic Status and Its Clinical Implication on Coronary Artery Disease

Christos Pitsavos, University of Athens, Chalandri Athens, Greece

Climatological Variations and Coronary Heart Disease Mortality

Demosthenes B. Panagiotakos, University of Athens, Glyfada, Attica, Greece



▶ ACUTE CORONARY SYNDROMES, ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION

Silent Infarction and Ischemia: Revisited in 2003

Shlomo Stern, Bikur Cholim Hospital, Jerusalem, Israel

Use of 80-Lead Body Map Electrocardiography to Diagnose Acute ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction

Joseph P. Ornato, Virginia Commonwealth Health System, Richmond, VA, U.S.A.

Role of P-Selectin Antagonists in Acute Myocardial Infarction

Jean-Francois Tanguay, Montreal Heart Institute, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Acute Coronary Syndromes: Diagnostic Challenges and Therapeutic Options

Osama Abdel-Aziz, Cairo, Egypt

▶ ANTITHROMBOTIC AND ANTIPLATELET THERAPY

Antithrombotic Therapy for Patients with Heart Failure: Blocking Platelets and Fibrin Formation

James H. Chesebro, Mayo Clinic Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL, U.S.A.

Reperfusion Injury Can Not Be Prevented Because It Does Not Exist

William Ganz, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, U.S.A.

Modern Developments in Thrombolytic Therapy in Acute Myocardial Infarction

Hans Martin Hoffmeister, Chefarzt Prof. Dr. H.M. Hoffmeister, Solingen, Germany

Development of Novel Antithrombotics Agents

Paul R. Eisenberg, Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN, U.S.A.

Approach to Patients of Acute Non-ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction with Early Conservative Management

Shih-Chung Lin, Vice President, Kuo General Hospital, Tainan, Taiwan

Anticoagulation During Pregnancy

Tasneem Naqvi, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, U.S.A.

▶ INTERVENTIONAL CARDIOLOGY

Clinical Impact of Periprocedural Microembolizations During PCI

Michael Haude, University of Essen, Essen, Germany

Catheter Closure of Ventricular Septal Defects

Horst Sievert, Cardiovascular Center Bethanien CCB, Frankfurt, Germany

Application of Excimer Laser Angioplasty in Acute Coronary Syndromes

On Topaz, McGuire VA Medical Ctr, Division of Cardiology, Richmond, VA, U.S.A.

Use of Intracardiac Echocardiography for Closure of ASDs and PFOs

Saibal Kar, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, U.S.A.

Left Ventricular Function After Angioplasty (PTCA or Stenting) of Infarct Related Artery: Early and Midterm Results

David G. Iosseliani, Moscow, Russia



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▶ STENTS: NEW DEVICES / OPTIMAL APPLICATION

Stents, Design and Vessel Wall Biology: Two Decades of Progress

Rafael Beyar, Rambam Medical Center, Haifa, Israel

Drug Eluting Stents: Special Considerations in the Application of Restenosis

George W. Vetrovec, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, U.S.A.

Results with Drug Eluting Stents in the Real World

Volker Klauss, Klinikum der Universität München, München, Germany

Current Status of Drug Eluting Stents - Did Expectation Translate Into Reality?

A. H. Gershlick, University of Leicester, Leicester, England, United Kingdom

Nanotechnology - Novel Technology Using Ultrapure Metals to Improve Endovascular Stents

Steven R. Bailey, University of Texas Health Sciences Center, San Antonio, TX, U.S.A.

Drug Eluting Stents: One Year Later, Where Are We Now?

Maurice Buchbinder, Sharp Health Care, San Diego, CA, U.S.A.

Is Carotid Angioplasty and Stenting Under Protection Becoming the Gold Standard Treatment of Carotid Artery Stenosis?

Michel Henry, Nancy, France

▶ DRUG THERAPY IN ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE

Beta Blockade as Cardioprotection in Coronary Patients in the Era of Thrombolysis, Percutaneous Coronary Intervention, and ACE Inhibition

Barry F. Uretsky, University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Galveston, TX, U.S.A.

Management of Stable Angina: Drugs, Devices, Stents or Coronary Bypass Surgery

Udho Thadani, University of Oklahoma HSC, Oklahoma City, OK, U.S.A.

Reducing CV Events - Focus on New Pharmacologic Trials

Robert DiBianco, Washington Adventist Hospital, Takoma Park, MD, U.S.A.

▶ MODIFICATION OF LIPOPROTEINS AND CORONARY DISEASE

New Understanding of Atherosclerosis: Is the Lipid Theory Debunked?

Carlos M. Ferrario, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC, U.S.A.

Statins and Stroke: The Mode of Action in Stroke Prevention and Therapy

Rodolfo Paoletti, University of Milan, Milan, Italy

Polyunsaturated Fats in the Management of the Diseased Artery

W. Virgil Brown, Atlanta VA Medical Center (111), Decatur, GA, U.S.A.

Atherosclerosis Regression by Lipid Lowering

Clive Rosendorff, VA Medical Center, Bronx, NY, U.S.A.

Effects of Statins on Vascular Function and Myocardial Ischemia

Prakash C. Deedwania, University of California, San Francisco Program, Fresno, CA, U.S.A.

Pleiotropic Actions of Statin Agents Including Applicability to CHF

Scott Wright, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, U.S.A.



▶ HYPERTENSION

Treating Hypertension in Patients Who Present Coronary Artery Disease, Heart Failure and/or Cardiac Arrhythmias

Ariel J. Reyes, Institute of Cardiovascular Theory, Montevideo, Uruguay

Angiotensin and the Left Ventricle

Philip R. Liebson, Rush Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center, Chicago, IL, U.S.A.

Management of Exercise Related Hypertension

Yzhar Charuzi, Los Angeles, CA, U.S.A.

New and Evolving Strategies in the High Risk Hypertensive Patient

Gabriel B. Habib, Houston VA Medical Center, Houston, TX, U.S.A.

▶ DIABETES AND HEART DISEASE

Diabetes and Coronary Valvular Disease

Jonathan Abrams, University of New Mexico HSC, Albuquerque, NM, U.S.A.

▶ PRIMARY PREVENTION OF CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

Guidelines for the Prevention of Coronary Heart Disease: What Does Reality Look Like? Findings from Germany and Other European Countries

Ulrich Keil, University of Munster, Munster, Germany

What is an Optimal Diet?

Dean Ornish, Preventive Medicine Research Institute, Sausalito, CA, U.S.A.

▶ DILATED CARDIOMYOPATHY: VARIOUS ETIOLOGIES

Advances in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Inflammatory Cardiomyopathy

Heinz-Peter Schultheiss, University Hospital Benjamin Franklin, Berlin, Germany

Cytokines in Adriamycin Induced Heart Failure

Pawan K. Singal, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Ventricular Remodeling Post-Infarction and Collagen

Bodh I. Jugdutt, University of Alberta Hospitals, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Virus Myocarditis as a Predictor of Dilated Cardiomyopathy, Possibilities for the Prevention of DCM

Nodar N. Kipshidze, Institute of Experimental and Clinical Therapy, Tbilisi, Rep. of Georgia

Myocardial Flow-Metabolism Abnormalities in Dilated Cardiomyopathy: Cause or Effect of Ventricular Dysfunction?

Danilo Neglia, CNR Institute of Clinical Physiology, Pisa, Italy

Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Dysplasia/Cardiomyopathy - Diagnosis and Treatment

Charles Y. Lui, University of Arizona Health Sciences Center, Tucson, AZ, U.S.A.

The Cytoskeleton and Dilated Cardiomyopathy

Neil Bowles, Texas Children's Hospital/Baylor College of Med, Houston, TX, U.S.A.

Chagas' Disease: What All Physicians Need to Know

Anis Rassi Jr., Goiania, Brazil



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▶ **NATRIURETIC PEPTIDES, ENDOTHELIN IN HEART FAILURE**

The Appropriate Use of BNP as a Diagnostic Tool in Heart Disease

Richard J. Rodeheffer, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, U.S.A.

Differential Secretion Patterns of Natriuretic Peptides in a Heart Failure Population and Their Association with Cardiac Function

Denise M. Heublein, Leibniz Res Labs, Biotech & Artificial Organs, Rochester, MN, U.S.A.

BNP in Acute Heart Failure

Andrew Burger, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA, U.S.A.

Endothelin Antagonists in Cardiovascular Disease: Nwe Preclinical and Clinical Data

Rene R. Wenzel, University Hospital Essen, Essen, Germany

Natriuretic Peptides in Asymptomatic and Symptomatic Severe Aortic Stenosis

Jutta Bergler-Klein, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

▶ **PREDICTORS AND MARKERS OF HEART FAILURE OUTCOME**

Heart Rate Variability in Systolic and Diastolic Heart Failure of the Elderly

John S. Gottdiener, St. Francis Hospital, Roslyn, NY, U.S.A.

Implantable Physiologic Optimized Dosimeter/Synchronizer for Treating Advanced Congestive Heart Failure

Neal Eigler, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA 90048, U.S.A.

▶ **LEFT VENTRICULAR HYPERTROPHY AND HYPERTROPHIC CARDIOMYOPATHY**

Catheter Based Treatment for HOCM: Studies on Myocardial Infarction in a Unique Clinical Infarct Model

Horst Kuhn, Bielefeld, Germany

Non-sarcomeric Causes of Familial Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

Lameh Fananapazir, National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, Bethesda, MD, U.S.A.

▶ **DIASTOLIC DYSFUNCTION**

The Clinical Characteristics, Co-morbid Conditions and Natural History of Patients Hospitalized for Heart Failure with a Normal Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction

Marc Klapholz, Saint Vincent Catholic Medical Center, New York, NY, U.S.A.

▶ **ROLE OF THE PERICARDIUM**

Morphological Diagnoses of Pericardioscopic Biopsies - Is It of Use?

U. Baandrup, Aarhus University Hospital, Aarhus C, Denmark

Pericardial Involvement in End-Stage Renal Disease

Martin A. Alpert, St. John's Mercy Medical Center, St. Louis, MO, U.S.A.



▶ HEART FAILURE IN WOMEN

Psychosocial and Hormonal Contributors to the Development and the Progression of Heart Failure in Females

Vera Regitz-Zagrosek, German Heart Institute, Berlin, Germany

▶ EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY IN HEART FAILURE

Exercise Training in Patients with Chronic Heart Failure: Why, When, and How Much?

Gunter Gorge, Ulinikum Saarbruecken, Saarbrucken, Germany

▶ RENAL ASPECTS

The Influence of Renal Function on BNP and Heart Failure

Peter A. McCullough, Northville, MI, U.S.A.

The Changing Role of Ultrafiltration for Management of Decompensated Heart Failure - Not Just for the Nephrologist Anymore

Mitchell Saltzberg, Midwest Heart Specialists, Downers Grove, IL, U.S.A.

▶ NEW HORIZONS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF HEART FAILURE

BNP: New Strategies for the Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease

John C. Burnett, Mayo Clinic and Foundation, Rochester, MN, U.S.A.

Hospitalization for Heart Failure: Pathophysiology and Management

Mihai Gheorghiade, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL, U.S.A.

Decompensated Heart Failure - Vasodilators or Inotropes

Uri Elkayam, USC School of Medicine, Los Angeles, CA, U.S.A.

New Approaches to the Treatment of Heart Failure

Robert C. Bourge, The University of Alabama, Birmingham, Birmingham, AL, U.S.A.

Status of Vasopressin Antagonists as a Therapy for Heart Failure

Steven R. Goldsmith, Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis, MN, U.S.A.

New Therapies for Heart Failure

Robert E. Hobbs, The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH, U.S.A.

Is Palliative Care Useful for Patients With Severe Heart Failure?

Herbert J. Geschwind, University of Paris XII, Val-de-Marne, Creteil, France

The Management of Heart Disease in 2003: Pearls and Pitfalls

Maryl R. Johnson, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, U.S.A.

Digoxin Pharmacotherapy in Patients with Chronic Cor Pulmonale. In Fact, Is It a Dilemma?

Nestor J. Angomachalelis, Aristotle University, School of Medicine, Thessaloniki, Macedonia, Greece

Targeting Phospholamban as a Therapeutic Modality in Heart Failure

Litsa Kranias, University of Cincinnati Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH, U.S.A.



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▶ **CARDIAC PACING STRATEGIES IN HEART FAILURE**

Electrical Therapy for Congestive Heart Failure

Masood Akhtar, Sinai Samaritan Medical Center, Milwaukee, WI, U.S.A.

Electrophysiological Interventions in Management of Cardiac Failure

Gerard Marcel Guiraudon, University Hospital, London, Ontario, Canada

Heart Failure and the Need for Device Therapy

William Abraham, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, U.S.A.

▶ **CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION**

Why Are the Guidelines for Basic CPR Wrong?

Gordon A. Ewy, University of Arizona Sarver Heart Center, Tucson, AZ, U.S.A.

Novel Steps in the Journey Toward Optimizing Care for the Victim of Sudden Cardiac Arrest

Alessandro Capucci, Ospedale Civile, Piacenza, Italy

Advances in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Gerasimos S. Filippatos, Athens, Greece

▶ **ARRHYTHMIAS I: SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH / RISK STRATIFICATION / IMPLANTABLE ANTIARRHYTHMIC DEVICES**

Risk Identification in Arrhythmic Athletes with Fatal or Resuscitated Cardiac Arrest

Francesco Furlanello, Policlinico San Donato Milanese - Milan, Povo (TN), Italy

Syncope, Evaluation and Treatment

Brian Olshansky, University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa, U.S.A.

Sudden Cardiac Death Prevention in High Risk Familial Syndrome

Win-Kuang Shen, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, U.S.A.

Do All Patients With Coronary Artery Disease and an Ejection Fraction of Less Than 30% Need a Defibrillator?

Douglas L. Packer, St. Mary's Hospital Complex, Rochester, MN, U.S.A.

Sudden Cardiac Death: The Clinical and Public Health Challenges

George Mensah, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA, U.S.A.

New Alternatives for Patients Suffering In-Hospital Cardiac Arrest: the Role of Fully Automatic Defibrillators

Antonio Martinez-Rubio, Univ. Hosp. de St. Pau - Cardiology, Barcelona, Spain

Post-infarction Signaling Pathways as Targets for Novel Therapeutic Interventions

Nabil E. El-Sherif, SUNY Downstate Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY, U.S.A.

Primary Prevention of Sudden Death: Current Role of Implantable Device Therapy

David J. Wilber, Loyola University Medical Center, Maywood, IL, U.S.A.

Frontiers in Complete Congenital Heart Block

Mohamed Boujdir, NY Harbor Healthcare System, Brooklyn, NY, U.S.A.



▶ **ARRHYTHMIAS II: DIAGNOSIS / DRUG THERAPY / ABLATION**

Epidemiology of Atrial Fibrillation and Stroke

Daniel Levy, National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, Framingham, MA, U.S.A.

Interatrial Block: Electromechanical Disease of the Left Atrium - A Very Common Condition

David H. Spodick, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA, U.S.A.

Atrial Flutter Mechanisms: New Concepts of Interest for the Clinician

Jose L. Merino, Hospital General Universitario "La Paz", Madrid, Spain

Recent Advances in the Non-Pharmacologic Treatment of Atrial Fibrillation

Peter G. Guerra, Montreal Heart Institute, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

▶ **VALVULAR HEART DISEASE / HEART VALVE SURGERY / DISEASES OF THE THORACIC AORTA**

Confirmation of Contractility as a Prognostic Index in Aortic Regurgitation, and the Cellular/Molecular Basis of the Deficit

Jeffrey S. Borer, The New York Hospital, Cornell Medical Center, New York, NY, U.S.A.

Etiology of Valvular Heart Disease in the 21st Century

Harisios Boudoulas, The Ohio State University Medical Center, Columbus, OH, U.S.A.

Transcatheter Treatment of Mitral Regurgitation

Peter C. Block, Emory University Hospital, Atlanta, GA, U.S.A.

Mechanical Properties of the Aorta in Normal and Aneurysmal States

John A. Elefteriades, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT, U.S.A.

Aortic Valve Stenosis: New Disease or Manifestation of the Same Disease?

Bijoy Khandheria, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, U.S.A.

Mitral and Tricuspid Reconstruction in the Patients with Heart Failure

Ninoslav Radovanovic, University Clinic of Cardiovascular Surgery, Sremska Kamenica, Novi Sad, Yugoslavia

Rational Behind the Biological Aortic Valve Replacement

Borut Gersak, University Medical Center, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Robotic Mitral Valve Repair: Improved Results and Patient Satisfaction

Mark S. Slaughter, Christ Hospital and Medical Center, Oak Lawn, IL, U.S.A.

▶ **NEW APPROACHES TO SURGICAL REVASCULARIZATION**

Totally Endoscopic CABG

Daniel Loisanse, Hopital Henri Mondor, Cretail Cedex, France

Purely Internal Mammary Artery CABG for Complete Myocardial Revascularization

Patrick Nataf, Center Cardiologique du Nord, saint Denis, France

Facilitative Techniques to Advance Minimally Invasive Concept of Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery and Surgical Treatment for Heart Failure

Valavanur A. Subramanian, Lenox Hill Hospital, New York, NY U.S.A.



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NEW APPROACHES TO SURGICAL REVASCULARIZATION (cont'd)

Assessment of Myocardial Viability in Heart Failure: Who Should Be Revascularized?
Vasken Dilsizian, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, U.S.A.

Recent Advances in Cardiac Surgery
Mercedes K. C. Dullum, Washington Regional Cardiac Surgery PC, Washington DC, U.S.A.

Evolving Treatment Strategies for Unrevascularizable Ischemic Coronary Disease
Greg Barsness, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, U.S.A.

▶ **SURGERY FOR LV DYSFUNCTION, CARDIAC TRANSPLANTATION,
MECHANICAL SUPPORT**

Fetal Intervention to Prevent Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome
Steven Colan, Children's Hospital Boston, Boston, MA, U.S.A.

Heart Transplantation with Bicaval and Pulmonary Venous Anastomoses
Lawrence S. Czer, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, U.S.A.

Surgical Trials for the Management of Heart Failure
Dan M. Meyer, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX, U.S.A.

Management of Pulmonary Hypertension in Cardiac Transplant Recipients
Geetha Bhat, University of Louisville and Jewish Hospital, Louisville, KY, U.S.A.

Mechanical Circulatory Support in Infants and Children with Cardiac Disease
Brian W. Duncan, The Children's Hospital at the Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH, U.S.A.

New Agents and New Strategies in Immunosuppression After Heart Transplantation
Bruno M. Meiser, University of Munich, Klinikum Grosshadern, Munich, Germany

Non-Transplant Surgery for Heart Failure
Jai Raman, The University of Chicago medical Center, Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.

First Results with Rapamycin Replacing Cyclosporin After Heart Transplantation, Is There an Advantage Concerning Graftsklerosis?
Suzanne Roedler, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria