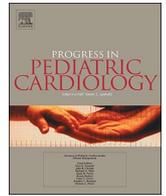




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Editorial

Special Issue Editorial

The knowledge base necessary to practice in the field of pediatric and congenital cardiovascular disease is both wide and deep. Our field encompasses a host of various anatomical and physiological conditions that span the entire time frame of life. From prenatal detection and emerging fetal treatments, to the expanding adult population with a repaired lesion but residual challenge, the information base necessary to practice is both expansive and varied. Furthermore, the field is relatively young with new information being generated at a rapid pace. Improved understandings, as well as new medical and surgical therapeutic advances for a host of conditions at different stages of life, are developing quickly. Keeping up is essential but can be a challenge.

It is with this notion in mind that we have established a framework for exchange of knowledge, the "Update on Pediatric and Congenital Cardiovascular Disease Conference." Now in our 23rd year, the conference is one of the world's largest annual gatherings for all healthcare providers focused on pediatric and congenital cardiovascular care and science. State-of-the-art strategies, innovation, and late-breaking research are balanced with review of fundamental principles and clinical care, all within an environment conducive towards learning, professional networking and social interaction.

This past February 2019, nearly 1000 professionals from across disciplines gathered at the Hyatt Regency in Huntington Beach, California to focus on the practice and science of pediatric and congenital cardiovascular disease. In this special issue of *Progress in Pediatric Cardiology*, we are pleased to present to you a series of review articles reflecting a sampling of the sessions and lectures delivered at the conference. Topics covered in this issue are varied and reflect the multidisciplinary aspects of our field. In this special issue we cover the

genetic landscape of congenital heart disease and the genomics of statin use in the young. The psychobiology of prenatal cardiac diagnosis as well as functional aspects of exercise and psychological resilience in the child and adolescent, are approached. Infant monitoring following surgery as well as novel frameworks for application of surgical strategies for single ventricle are presented. Lung disease and its relationship to pulmonary hypertension as well as managing matters related to the premature infant with heart disease are reviewed. Heart failure in the single ventricle, mechanical support and the challenges of heart transplantation are presented. The influence of obesity and importance of healthy lifestyle in the patient with congenital heart disease is reviewed. Finally novel medical therapies as well as emerging surveillance strategies for single ventricle are discussed.

We anticipate each review article will prompt deeper interest into these subjects and promote further reading and investigation. That is our goal. For those eager to continue their expansion of learning and knowledge as our field continues to grow, we invite you to participate in our 23rd annual Update in Pediatric and Congenital Cardiovascular Conference, which will be held at the Disney Yacht and Beach Club Resort, February 12–16, 2020 in Orlando, Florida.

Declaration of competing interest

Authors (Editors) have no conflicts of interest to declare.

Best wishes,

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