

## On cardiovascular imaging

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If you have been following EuroIntervention these last few years, you know that we have provided you with a variety of supplements devoted to a variety of topics – often cutting edge – concerning percutaneous or structural intervention. So it may seem, at first glance, that a special issue on cardiac imaging is out of place... and yet, is it really? As editors and contributors to this journal since its inception, we have witnessed a dramatic increase in the amount of papers specifically dedicated to imaging that have been received and published. Five years is a long time in our rapidly evolving speciality. We do not need to underline how quickly devices, material, techniques and protocols change, and an imaging issue, specifically aimed at updating the interventionalist on these new and exciting non-invasive and invasive imaging modalities is extremely useful in helping to keep you abreast of these developments, improving the percutaneous treatment of structural and coronary heart disease.

This is not just a supplement on imaging techniques themselves, but more specifically a presentation of the state-of-the-art in cardiac imaging for you, cardiac interventionalists. Discussed will be cardiac imaging modalities that will help – or can even be considered necessary – to improve selection of patients for revascularisation treatment. These techniques can assist, guide and monitor structural heart treatment, or be seen as useful in evaluating short and long-term post-procedural interventions. The supplement is

divided into five parts: beginning with several articles looking at guidance for transcatheter aortic and mitral valve implantation, followed by a section on MSCT for the interventionalist. The third chapter has articles devoted to functional coronary stenosis testing, while the fourth section focusses on the role of imaging in the treatment of percutaneous treatment of CTO. We complete the supplement with a group of articles on invasive coronary imaging.

An imaging supplement would not be complete, if it did not offer you the possibility of delving further into the subject with additional online resources. Certain articles have supplementary material that you will discover on the EuroIntervention website, moving images that further underline the importance of each technique.

Developments in this field, and our knowledge of them, are an essential part of all our work, and we hope this supplement, designed to be both theoretical and practical, will become a useful reference for you in the years to come. We have worked closely with the authors on the creation of this supplement, and many of them will be presenting their work at the 2010 edition of EuroPCR. Cardiac imaging is increasingly critical in our work, our ability to interpret, or simply know what is available is of great value. We believe that for all of us as cardiac interventionalists this pertinent reading is essential to the continual improvement of our clinical practice.