ESC CardioMed

The new ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine, ESC CardioMed, is a continuously updating electronic database.

Education: the mission of the ESC

The education of trainees, postgraduate and established cardiologists alike, and other healthcare professionals has always been a critical component of the mission of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC). Besides the most successful congresses of the main society as well as its associations, the growing ESC journal family and also the ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine have been important products of this successful strategy.

The ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine

The first edition of the ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine was published in print in 2009 by Blackwell, with John Camm, Thomas F Lüscher and Patrick Serruys as editors. Following the success of the first edition, the second edition appeared in 2011, this time published by Oxford University Press. Although available from the outset in a basic digital format, after the launch of the second edition the editors of the textbook felt that in the current modern world a more dynamic electronic version of a cardiology textbook with a sophisticated search system, many illustrations and movies should be developed.

ESC CardioMed

Thus in 2016 the ESC board of the European Society of Cardiology decided to launch a third edition of the textbook, this time in a completely different format. The editors, now also including Gerald Maurer, decided to enlarge the scope of the textbook to include many of the so far uncovered topics within the growing field of cardiovascular medicine, such as embryology, catheter-based structural interventions, psychological factors, ethnicity, interpretation of trials and personalised medicine, to name but a few.

As such, the concept of a huge primarily electronic textbook was born, with four main editors, 63 section coordinators and more than 1000 chapter authors. As one can imagine, such a large project took more time than anticipated to develop, but the editors are now ready to announce proudly the publication of ESC CardioMed. Access to this huge electronic database is available as a membership benefit for all professional members and fellows of the ESC. For others wishing to access the publication, annual subscriptions are available for individuals and institutions alike through the publisher.

In spring 2018 about a third of the ESC CardioMed content became available online, and now on the occasion of the Annual Congress of the European Society of Cardiology in Munich this August 2018, the majority of the chapters with a very few exceptions will be accessible online. The database is endowed with a sophisticated search system allowing rapid identification of the relevant parts of the book. Each of the chapters is illustrated, most with full colour figures and informative tables or videos of the most important clinical features. Indeed, the imaging sections in particular contain numerous videos of different cardiac conditions.

A novel aspect of the electronic ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine is first of all its name. It will be introduced under the name of ESC CardioMed to communicate its modern nature as a primarily comprehensive electronic database. Furthermore, and most importantly, it will be continuously updated three times a year, after each of the large cardiology congresses such as the Annual Congress of the European Society of Cardiology, the Scientific Sessions of the American Heart Association and the Annual Congress of the American College of Cardiology. Updates will primarily involve new trials affecting clinical practice or new imaging or interventional techniques highly relevant for the management of patients, as well as new insights into causes and mechanisms of cardiovascular disease of clinical interest. This will avoid the problem that most textbooks encounter, i.e. that they are outdated by the time they appear.

The content

The content of the textbook is divided into 63 sections that cover major aspects of cardiovascular disease.

Interaction with ESC Guidelines

A further major new aspect of ESC CardioMed is its alignment with ESC Guidelines. Many leaders in the field as
well as the users of ESC Guidelines have felt for some time that the documents were too long and difficult to read and it was difficult to find the main message. Therefore, the editors of ESC CardioMed came together with ESC Guidelines committee and its chairman Stephan Windecker and decided to bring the two products together gradually. To that end it is envisaged that ESC CardioMed will provide the background knowledge such as mechanisms of disease, epidemiology and describe the trials in more detail, while ESC Guidelines will focus primarily on the recommendations. Examples of this synergy are the direct links between ESC CardioMed and the most recent ESC Guidelines on valvular heart disease and on peripheral arterial disease published in the European Heart Journal. This concept will make ESC Guidelines more readable and digestible and still provide the full information through the links with ESC CardioMed. This process will take some time to be completed but is currently ongoing as new ESC Guidelines are being developed.

A print version will be published as The ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine 3e early in 2019.

The editors and the leaders of the European Society of Cardiology involved in this project do hope that ESC CardioMed will be frequently used by our cardiologists and other care professionals around the world and will turn out to be essential in their daily practice.

Andros Tofield
| Section   | Title                                                                 | Author(s)                          |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Section 35 | Valvular heart disease                                             | Helmut Baumgartner                 |
| Section 36 | Infective endocarditis                                             | Gilbert Habib                      |
| Section 37 | Heart Failure                                                       | John McMurray                      |
| Section 38 | Bradycardia                                                        | Giuseppe Boriani                   |
| Section 39 | Syncope                                                            | Michele Brignole                   |
| Section 40 | Supraventricular tachycardias                                     | Carina Blomström-Lundqvist         |
| Section 41 | Atrial fibrillation                                                | A. John Camm                      |
| Section 42 | Ventricular tachycardia                                            | Brian Olshansky                    |
| Section 43 | Sudden Cardiac Death                                               | Gerhard Hindricks                 |

**Part 4: Vascular disease**

| Section 44 | Systemic hypertension                                              | Bryan Williams                     |
| Section 45 | Pulmonary Hypertension                                              | Marc Humbert                       |
| Section 46 | Diseases of the aorta                                               | Raimund Erbel                      |
| Section 47 | Trauma to the cardiovascular system                                | Christoph Nienaber                 |
| Section 48 | Non-cardiac surgery                                                 | Steen Kristensen                   |
| Section 49 | Peripheral arterial diseases                                       | Victor Aboyans                     |
| Section 50 | Venous thromboembolism                                              | Stavros Konstantinides             |
| Section 51 | Venous disease                                                      | Sebastian Schellong                |

**Part 5: Specific populations – gender and race**

| Section 52 | Cardiovascular disease in women                                     | C. Noel Bairey Merz                |
| Section 53 | Pregnancy and heart disease                                         | Vera Regitz-Zagrosek               |
| Section 54 | Ethnicity                                                           | Gregory Lip                        |

**Part 6: Other aspects**

| Section 55 | Sports and heart disease                                            | Antonio Pelliccia                  |
| Section 56 | Elderly                                                             | Franz H. Messerli and Tomasz Grodzicki |
| Section 57 | Precision Medicine                                                  | Paulus Kirchhof                    |
| Section 58 | Decision-making and the Heart Team                                  | Patrick Serruys                    |
| Section 59 | Psychological factors and heart disease                             | Susanne Pedersen                   |
| Section 60 | Interpretation of clinical trials                                  | John Cleland                      |
| Section 61 | Environment                                                         | Thomas Muenzel                     |
| Section 62 | Occupational and regulatory aspects                                 | Demosthenes Katriss               |
| Section 63 | Economics and cost-effectiveness                                    | Lorenzo Mantovani                  |

**Part 7: Appendices**

| Appendix 1 | Cardiovascular disease risk estimation                             | Ian Graham                         |
| Appendix 2 | Patient reported outcome measures                                  | Adam Timmis                         |