# Current Topics in Antiarrhythmic Agents

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## Mode of Action and Clinical Usage

International Satellite Symposium of the 53rd Annual Meeting of the Japanese Circulation Society, Nagoya, Japan, March 27–28, 1989

**Editors:** **Junji Toyama**
**Luc M. Hondeghem**

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# Preface

The contents of this book are based on the oral and poster presentations made at the International Symposium on Current Topics in Antiarrhythmic Agents: Mode of Action and Clinical Usage, held in Nagoya, during March 27–28, 1989.

The purpose of the symposium was to coordinate recent advances from basic studies on ionic channels and their interactions with local anesthetics or related ion channel blockers. Other aims included exchange of information on the pharmacokinetics and actions of antiarrhythmic drugs in experimental and clinical situations and the efficacy and problems associated with the use of antiarrhythmic drugs.

The structure of this book generally follows that of the original symposium, which was divided into 9 main sessions. The main sections of the book are: the kinetics of cardiac sodium channels; the modulation of the sodium channel by local anesthetics; the modulation of ionic channels by antiarrhythmic drugs; the experimental electrophysiology of antiarrhythmic drugs; the classification of antiarrhythmic drugs; the clinical electrophysiology of antiarrhythmic drugs; pharmacokinetics; the clinical efficacy of drug therapy; and the arrhythmogenicity of antiarrhythmic drugs.

The editors are greatly indebted to the participants in the symposium, all of whom contributed toward its undoubted success through their individual presentations and participation in discussion sessions. We would particularly like to thank K. Yamada, professor emeritus, Nagoya University, who originally proposed the organization of the symposium, and Drs I. Kodama and K. Kamiya of Nagoya University, for their assistance. We would also like to express our sincerest gratitude to the symposium's sponsors, who provided such generous support.

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