

Advances in Heart Disease Volume 2

Edited by

Dean T. Mason, M.D.

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Preface

Volume 2 of this series constitutes an extension of the first volume of *Advances in Heart Disease* and thus contains a comprehensive presentation of the latest developments in patient management in cardiovascular diseases. To best accomplish this goal, the present monograph is organized within eight principal areas of important progress: (1) Advances in Echocardiography; (2) Advances in Nuclear Cardiology; (3) Advances in Ambulatory Electrocardiography; (4) Advances in Exercise Testing; (5) Advances in Exercise Training and Cardiac Rehabilitation; (6) Advances in Invasive Evaluation of Cardiac Function; (7) Advances in Special Cardiovascular Treatment; and (8) Advances in Special Cardiovascular Topics.

While each of the 30 chapters (including hundreds of illustrations and references) provides independent coverage of a specific topic, the chapters are carefully integrated to sequentially build upon a crucial body of information, to afford a thorough overview of the subjects without unnecessary repetition. It should be pointed out that this book is an outgrowth of the recent Ninth Annual Symposium on Clinical Cardiology sponsored by our Section of Cardiovascular Medicine and The American College of Cardiology. The preparation of the present book was stimulated by the encouragement of the many attendees and participants desiring copies of the presentations at these postgraduate courses. The continued intent is that subsequent volumes will extend forthcoming symposia to a wide, clinically oriented audience of professionals in medicine, including medical students,

physicians-in-training, generalists, internists, and cardiologists, as well as postgraduate students in the medical sciences and academic basic and clinical investigation.

Throughout this monograph, emphasis is placed on the elucidation of the concepts and principles relevant to each topic, so that the clinician can approach a particular aspect of the problem logically and, as desired and motivated, may further proceed expeditiously into even greater detail on the matter of interest. In addition, a vigorous effort has been made to select major topics written by investigators well recognized in their fields to provide an authoritative textbook. To the 63 contributing authors who readily agreed to construct this comprehensive sourcebook, I am deeply grateful for their superb contributions. In summary, this volume presents an overall survey of recent basic and clinical progress in contemporary knowledge of cardiovascular diseases important in the advancement of patient care.

Dean T. Mason, M.D.

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