



Interventions for the failing left ventricle

Dear Colleagues,

Up to the first half of the 1980s, it was considered unwise to operate on a patient with a severely impaired left ventricle (EF < 30%). Surgeons who did so were widely and severely criticized. The concerns were (1) that the risk of surgery would be extremely high, often taking the patient's life in the process of surgery, and (2) that the patient would manifest an inexorable deterioration toward death regardless of the surgery performed. Courageous surgical efforts in that era led to the safe and commonplace performance of surgical interventions for the failing left ventricle in the present era. This Special Issue takes specific aim at the current status of surgery for patients with severely impaired left ventricles—exploring current indications, current levels of safety, and advanced surgical options.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Reviews in Cardiovascular Medicine was launched in 2000 by MedReviews, LLC, in New York, NY. This journal was conceived to fill a critical gap for clinicians who were struggling with a rapidly expanding knowledge base in cardiovascular medicine with the convergence of basic science, clinical epidemiology, and therapeutic clinical trials. The founding co-editors were David P. Faxon, MD, past president of the American Heart Association, and Norman E Lepor, MD, who is considered a luminary in interventional cardiology. The contributing editorial board grew over time and Dr. Peter A. McCullough, MD, MPH ascended from contributing, to associate, to co-editor of the Journal. In 2018, the Journal took its next big step under the leadership of Dr. McCullough as editor-in-chief to become a truly international publication. Its offices moved to IMR Press in Hong Kong, and the editorial board was made more inclusive and representative of the world-wide contributors in academic cardiology. Additionally, the journal brought on expertise in translational medicine to help face the future of molecular medicine and its role in cardiovascular disease. Today Reviews in Cardiovascular Medicine is considered a top tier journal in cardiology with timely and comprehensive reviews covering all aspects of cardiovascular medicine including atherosclerosis, myocardial disease, arrhythmias, and valvular heart disease. The scope of papers ranges from population science, applied basic investigation, in-vitro diagnostics, and evidence-based strategy and therapeutic trials involving both pharmacologic intervention and interventional devices. The highly integrative style of the Journal anchored with evidence tables and instructive figures has garnered many citations over the years and many guidelines documents have relied upon works published in Reviews in Cardiovascular Medicine. Supplement and focus issues have been very popular among the readership and often are viewed as the most up-to-date compilations of new knowledge in cardiology and related specialties. The future is bright for academic cardiovascular medicine and Reviews in Cardiovascular Medicine is well positioned along side the clinician-investigator in the years to come as a trusted source of critical information and analysis.

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