Preface

Conversations in Veterinary Cardiology

The visions for the advancement in diagnostic and therapeutic techniques in clinical cardiology are often conversations shared in a friendly and informal environment. This issue of Veterinary Clinics of North America: Small Animal Practice - Topics in Cardiology is just that, a conversation between colleagues and friends that triggers discussion, controversy, opportunity for speculation, and future forecast.

This issue attempts to update current concepts and crucial topics such as the management and treatment of asymptomatic canine degenerative valve disease, which has changed dramatically in the last year; to showcase newer cardiac imaging and interventional techniques; and to review more contentious issues including the treatment of asymptomatic hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, feline congestive heart failure, and cardiogenic arterial thromboembolism. We have addressed classic subjects like atrial fibrillation and arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy that were due for timely updating. On the horizon, we introduced novel biomarkers of active kidney injury and conventional cardiac biomarkers that may facilitate the early identification of cardiovascular–renal-axis disorders. Finally, we have a glimpse into the future with the possibility of gene transfer to treat cardiovascular diseases.

I hope that the readers enjoy these updated topics in cardiology and gain from these exchanges as much as I did while reviewing and composing them.

I would like to thank Elsevier for providing this timely opportunity for “conversations in veterinary cardiology.” I would also like to acknowledge my colleagues...
for their time, efforts, and unselfish contributions to this issue. I trust it will be a valued resource to the veterinary cardiology literature.

João S. Orvalho, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)  
University of California  
Veterinary Medical Center–San Diego  
10435 Sorrento Valley Road, Suite 101  
San Diego, CA 92121, USA  

E-mail address:  
jorvalho@ucdavis.edu