



## Endocarditis of the Heart: An Overview of Current Knowledge on Epidemiology, Pathogenesis, Diagnosis and Treatment

Guest Editor:

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Infective endocarditis (IE) is a consequence of the localized or systemic diffusion of pathogens, generally bacteria or fungi, in the heart. Complications of heart valve endocarditis (HVE) develop in approximately 1% to 43% of patients. Staphylococcal contamination increasingly occurs with nosocomial infection, with additional burden brought about by antibiotic multiresistance. The introduction of two vaccines has unfortunately failed to resolve these issues, as they demonstrated a lack of safety and effectiveness in Phase III clinical studies. The biological and immunological mechanisms that determine resistance require further investigation.

Thus, the publication of peer-reviewed clinical and research articles, fostering immunological and pathogenetic-level knowledge, are urgently needed to improve consensus and, consequently, to guide appropriate diagnostic and clinical choices. Papers may address: prevention of infective endocarditis in the 21st century; antibiotic prophylaxis and its effect; diagnosis: imaging and microbiology; and shared multidisciplinary decision-making processes in medical therapeutic orientation.

Dr. Francesco Nappi

*Guest Editor*





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