



## The Cutting Edge of Cardiac Pacing, Electrophysiology and Diagnostic Techniques

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### **Message from the Guest Editors**

Implantable cardioverter defibrillators (ICDs) have clearly established a proven benefit in reducing the risk of sudden cardiac death in patients affected by advanced heart failure or genetic diseases. Novel extravascular ICDs ensure the same benefits as transvenous ones but at the cost of a significantly reduced rate of complications, with subsequent fewer negative implications, especially in young patients. Resynchronization therapy is the cornerstone of the heart failure armamentarium, with even more well-tested technologies and possible fields of employment, in particular regarding conduction system pacing. Leadless pacemakers represent the most significant innovation in cardiac pacing technology, avoiding leads, surgical wounds, infections and battery replacement. On the other hand, catheter ablation is currently capable of treating 100% of cardiac arrhythmias, although with variable results. The advent of three-dimensional (3D) mapping systems has completely overturned electrophysiological techniques by providing detailed anatomical and electrical information of the heart, allowing for precise localization of arrhythmogenic substrates and targeted ablation.





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