



Clinical Features, Treatment, and Prognosis of Endocarditis

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Infective endocarditis is a life-changing infection. Since it was fully described by Dr. William Osler over a century now, and in spite of advances in antimicrobial therapy and cardiac surgery, the disease continues to be a devastating medical condition. Hospital mortality still exceeds 20% in many tertiary care centers, and delayed morbidity and mortality continue to exist, in spite of soaring cost of medical care. The numbers of patients with endocarditis on medicine and cardiology wards continues to increase.

The procedures for diagnosis of endocarditis have also seen many breakthroughs in molecular identification, antibiotic resistance patterns, and imaging techniques.

The scope of this volume is to shed light on the current difficulties in the timely diagnosis of infective endocarditis and its complications, and how making the best use of clinical skills, laboratory testing and imaging techniques can achieve a timely, accurate, and complete diagnosis of infective endocarditis

Hussien H. Rizk, MD
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