Coronary Artery Disease: Risk Promoters, Pathophysiology and Prevention


This monograph on coronary artery disease is co-authored by 53 experts from all over the world, including Professor YK Seedat from Durban who contributes the first chapter ‘Epidemic of coronary heart disease in the migrant South-African Indian population’. The book provides a comprehensive review of the epidemiology, pathophysiology, risk assessment, treatment, and prevention of coronary artery disease in people of South Asian origin (i.e. Bangladeshis, Indians, Pakistanis, and Sri Lankans). There is increased recognition of the alarming risk of coronary artery disease among Asian Indians, which has led to initiatives focusing on understanding the pathophysiological mechanisms and emphasising the establishment of new guidelines for cardioprotection, such as in this book. The Asian-Indian ‘paradox’, which is discussed in the chapter ‘The Indian paradox: from perception to prevention’ by Mukherjee and Lao, reflects the perception that this population has an attributable risk substantially higher than anticipated, despite the appearance of low risk by traditional risk stratification. This perception has recently been clarified in the INTERHEART study which has shown that the population-attributable risk of risk factors for coronary artery disease is similar across the major continental populations of the world, including people from South Asia. This new information will no doubt be incorporated in future updates of this work. The book also covers topics of general interest to the cardiovascular practitioner, such as ‘Controlling the cardiovascular disease epidemic in developing countries: urgent need for evidence-based action’ by Shanthi Mendis (WHO), ‘Early detection of vascular disease as a strategy to prevent morbid events’ by Jay Cohn (Minnesota), and ‘Cardiac allograft vasculopathy’ by Mohan Thanikachalam (Miami).

The book is recommended as a reference text for practitioners and researchers in the field of atherosclerosis.

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