



ELSEVIER

EUROPEAN
SOCIETY OF
CARDIOLOGY

GUEST EDITORIAL

Euroecho 8 Final Welcome Address

Welcome to Athens and to Euroecho 8 – and our echocardiographic Olympics! Once again, we have a busy and interesting programme of education and science, which we hope that you will enjoy. Euroecho is of course the annual meeting of our European Association of Echocardiography (EAE), which is a registered branch of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC), but it has also become the major educational and scientific meeting in Europe on non-invasive cardiovascular diagnosis.

The special themes this year are echocardiographic diagnosis and monitoring in arrhythmias, including biventricular pacing (4 joint sessions on Thursday with our fellow associations of the ESC – the European Heart Rhythm Association and the Heart Failure Association), and vascular disease (4 joint sessions on Friday with the Working Groups on Peripheral Circulation and on Hypertension). There will also be joint sessions with the Association of European Paediatric Cardiologists (AEPC) and the ESC Working Group on Grown-up Congenital Heart Disease, and with the European Association of Cardiothoracic Anaesthesiologists (EACTA). We are pleased to continue our successful links with the ESC Working Groups on Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance, Nuclear Cardiology, and Valvular Heart Disease. From further afield, we welcome colleagues from the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE), the Japanese Society of Ultrasonics in Medicine, from the Magrebian countries and from Argentina.

On Wednesday, before the opening ceremony, we will repeat the successful teaching courses on congenital heart disease, cardiovascular magnetic resonance, and cardiac function, and there will be new courses on vascular ultrasound, and on nuclear cardiology. A course on stress echocardiography will be held in Greek. The educational course and DICE clinical case sessions continue throughout the

meeting. Remember also the “hands on” pathology demonstrations organised with the Working Group on Myocardial and Pericardial Disease.

The core of Euroecho is the presentation of new research and so we encourage you to attend the oral abstract sessions, the moderated and general poster sessions, and the Young Investigator Awards, which were selected this year from a record number of submissions. We hope that representatives from all the national Working Groups will attend the consultative session on echocardiographic accreditation, and also that the industry sessions and exhibition will be well supported.

Euroecho now represents a major collaborative effort and so we want to record our sincere thanks to all friends and colleagues around the world and in the European Heart House who have helped in many different ways to ensure its success. We are grateful to the Working Group on Echocardiography of the Hellenic Society of Cardiology for their tremendous support as local hosts. Finally, we hope that you will have time to enjoy Athens and Greek hospitality, as well as the conference.

Prof. F.J. Pinto
President EAE

Dr. A.G. Fraser
President Elect EAE