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# ESC CardioMed

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The new *ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine*, *ESC CardioMed*, is a continuosly updating electronic database (Fig. 1).

## Education — the mission of the ESC

The education of trainees, postgraduate and established cardiologists alike, and other health care proffesionals has always been a critical component of the mission of the *European Society of Cardiology*. Besides the most successful congresses of the main Society as well as its associations, the growing *ESC Journal Family* and also the *ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine* have been important products of this successful strategy.

## The *ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine*

The first edition of the *ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine* was published in print in 2009 by Blackwell, with John Camm, Thomas F. Lüscher and Patrick Serruys as editors. Following the success of the first edition, the second edition appeared in 2011, this time published by Oxford University Press. Although available from the outset in a basic digital format, after the launch of the second edition the editors of the textbook felt that in today's modern world a more dynamic electronic version of a cardiology textbook with a sophisticated search system, many illustrations, and movies should be developed.

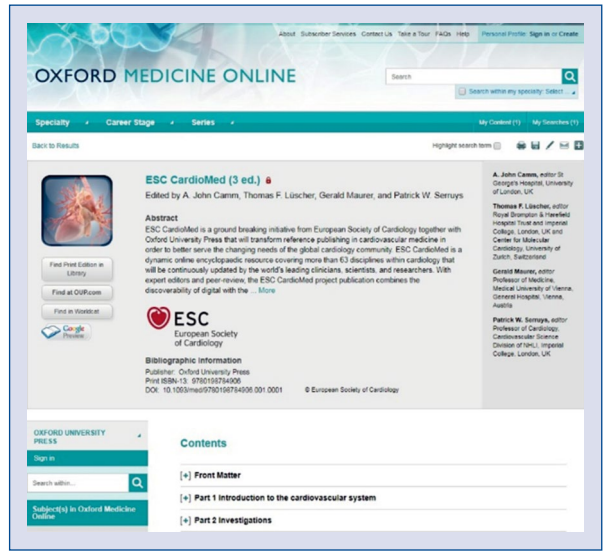


**Figure 1.** *ESC CardioMed* screenshot.

## *ESC CardioMed*

Thus, in 2016 the ESC Board of the *European Society of Cardiology* decided to launch a third edition of the textbook, this time in a completely different format. The editors, now also including Gerald Maurer (Fig. 2), decided to enlarge the scope of the textbook to include many of the so far uncovered topics within the growing field of cardiovascular medicine such as embryology, catheter-based structural interventions, psycho-

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**Figure 2.** *ESC CardioMed* editors (from left to right): Thomas F. Lüscher, John A. Camm, Gerald Maurer, Patrick W. Serruys.

logical factors, ethnicity, interpretation of trials, and personalized medicine, to name but a few.

As such, the concept of a huge primarily electronic textbook was born with four main editors, 63 section co-ordinators, and more than 1000-chapter authors. As one can imagine, such a large project took more time than anticipated to develop, but the editors are now ready to proudly announce the publication of *ESC CardioMed*. Access to this huge electronic data base is available as a membership benefit for all Professional Members and Fellows of the *European Society of Cardiology* (Fig. 3). For others wishing to access the publication, annual subscriptions are available for individuals and institutions alike through the publisher.

In spring 2018 about one-third of the *ESC CardioMed* content became available online and now on the occasion of the Annual Congress of the *European Society of Cardiology* in Munich this August 2018, the majority of the chapters with a very few exceptions will be accessible online. The database is endowed with a sophisticated search system allowing rapid identification of the relevant parts of the book. Each of the chapters is illustrated, most with full colour figures and informative tables or videos of the most important clinical features. Indeed, particularly the imaging sections contain numerous videos of different cardiac conditions.

A novel aspect of the electronic *ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine* is first of all its name. It will be introduced under the name of *ESC CardioMed* to communicate its modern nature as a primarily comprehensive electronic database. Furthermore, and most importantly, it will be continuously updated three times a year, after each of the large cardiology congresses such as the Annual Congress of the *European Society of Cardiology*, the Scientific Sessions of the *American Heart Association* and the Annual Congress of the *American College of Cardiology*. Updates will primarily involve new trials affecting clinical practice or new imaging or interventional techniques highly relevant for the management of patients, as well as new insights into causes and mechanisms of cardiovascular disease of clinical interest. This will avoid the problem that most textbooks encounter, i.e. that they are outdated by the time they appear.

## The content

The content of the textbook is divided into 63 sections that cover major aspects of cardiovascular disease (Table 1).

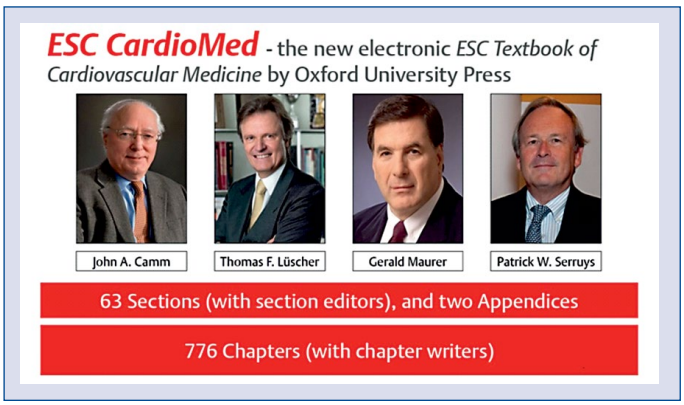


**Figure 3.** Structure of *ESC CardioMed* — the new electronic, continuously upgraded *ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine* edited by the *European Society of Cardiology* with Oxford University Press.

**Table 1.** CardioMed table of contents.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Part 1: Introduction to the cardiovascular system** | | Section 34 Tumours of the heart | Gaetano Thiene |
| Section 1 Cardiovascular history and physical examination | Nicholas Boon | Section 35 Valvular heart disease | Helmut Baumgartner |
| Section 2 Developmental biology of the heart | Miguel Torres | Section 36 Infective endocarditis | Gilbert Habib |
| Section 3 Functional anatomy of the heart | Yen Ho | Section 37 Heart Failure | John McMurray |
| Section 4 Cardiovascular physiology | Guido Grassi | Section 38 Bradycardia | Giuseppe Boriani |
| Section 5 Cardiovascular pharmacology | Faiez Zannad | Section 39 Syncope | Michele Brignole |
| Section 6 Anticoagulation | Raffaele De Caterina | Section 40 Supraventricular tachycardias | Carina Blomström-Lundqvist |
| Section 7 Epidemiology and global burden | Sumeet Chugh | Section 41 Atrial fibrillation | A. John Camm |
| **Part 2: Investigations** | | Section 42 Ventricular tachycardia | Brian Olshansky |
| Section 8 Electrocardiogram | Antonio Bayes de Luna | Section 43 Sudden Cardiac Death | Gerhard Hindricks |
| Section 9 Chest radiography | Christian Herold | **Part 4: Vascular disease** | |
| Section 10 Cardiac ultrasound | Frank Flachskampf | Section 44 Systemic hypertension | Bryan Williams |
| Section 11 Cardiovascular magnetic resonance | Dudley Pennell | Section 45 Pulmonary Hypertension | Marc Humbert |
| Section 12 Cardiovascular computed tomography | Stephan Achenbach | Section 46 Diseases of the aorta | Raimund Erbel |
| Section 13 Nuclear cardiology and positron emission tomography | Philipp Kaufman | Section 47 Trauma to the cardiovascular system | Christoph Nienaber |
| Section 14 Invasive imaging - haemodynamics | Carlo Di Mario | Section 48 Non-cardiac surgery | Steen Kristensen |
| Section 15 Selection of imaging techniques | Jeroen Bax | Section 49 Peripheral arterial diseases | Victor Aboyans |
| **Part 3: Heart diseases** | | Section 50 Venous thromboembolism | Stavros Konstantinides |
| Section 16 Genetics of CV diseases | Heribert Schunkert | Section 51 Venous disease | Sebastien Schellong |
| Section 17 Congenital heart disease (GUCH) | John Deanfield | **Part 5: Specific populations – gender and race** | |
| Section 18 Prevention in cardiovascular disease and rehabilitation | Massimo Piepoli | Section 52 Cardiovascular disease in women | C. Noel Bairey Merz |
| Section 19 Diabetes mellitus metabolics syndrome | Lars Rydén | Section 53 Pregnancy and heart disease | Vera Regitz-Zagrosek |
| Section 20 Heart and the brain | Hans-Christoph Diener | Section 54 Ethnicity | Gregory Lip |
| Section 21 Cardiovascular problems in chronic kidney disease | Christoph Wanner | **Part 6: Other aspects** | |
| Section 22 Erectile dysfunction | Charalambos Vlachopoulos | Section 55 Sports and heart disease | Antonio Pelliccia |
| Section 23 Lung Disease | Martin Cowie | Section 56 Elderly | Franz H. Messerli and Tomasz Grodzicki |
| Section 24 Gastrointestinal disease | Gerhard Rogler | Section 57 Precision Medicine | Paulus Kirchhof |
| Section 25 Rheumatoid arthritis and the heart | Thomas Lüscher | Section 58 Decision-making and the Heart Team | Patrick Serruys |
| Section 26 Rheumatic heart disease | Ferande Peters | Section 59 Psychological factors and heart disease | Susanne Pedersen |
| Section 27 Cardio-oncology | John Groarke | Section 60 Interpretation of clinical trials | John Cleland |
| Section 28 HIV | Nombulelo Magula | Section 61 Environment | Thomas Muenzel |
| Section 29 Acute coronary syndromes | Stefan James | Section 62 Occupational and regulatory aspects | Demos Katritsis |
| Section 30 Takotsubo syndrome | Christian Templin | Section 63 Economics and cost-effectiveness | Lorenzo Mantovani |
| Section 31 Chronic ischaemic heart disease | William Wijns | **Part 7: Appendices** | |
| Section 32 Myocardial disease | Perry Elliott | Appendix 1 Cardiovascular disease risk estimation | Ian Graham |
| Section 33 Pericardial disease | Yehuda Adler | Appendix 2 Patient reported outcome measures | Adam Timmis |

## Interaction with *ESC Guidelines*

A further major new aspect of *ESC CardioMed* is its alignment with the *ESC Guidelines*. Many leaders in the field as well as the users of the *ESC Guidelines* have felt for some time that the documents were too long and difficult to read and it was difficult to find the main message. Therefore, the editors of *ESC CardioMed* came together with the *ESC Guidelines Committee* and its chairman Stephan Windecker and decided to gradually bring the two products together. To that end, it is envisaged that the *ESC CardioMed* will provide the background knowledge such as mechanisms of disease, epidemiology, and describe the trials in more detail, while the *ESC Guidelines* will focus primarily on the recommendations. Examples of this synergy are the direct links between *ESC CardioMed* and the most recent *ESC Guidelines on Valvular Heart Disease* and on *Peripheral Arterial Disease published in the European Heart Journal*. This concept will make the *ESC Guidelines* more readable and digestible and still provide the full information through the links with *ESC CardioMed*. This process will take some time to be completed but is currently ongoing as new *ESC Guidelines* are being developed.

A print version will be published as *The ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine 3e* early in 2019 (Fig. 4).

The editors and the leaders of the *European Society of Cardiology* involved in this project do hope that *ESC CardioMed* will be frequently used by our cardiologists and other care professionals around the world and will turn out to be essential in their daily practice.

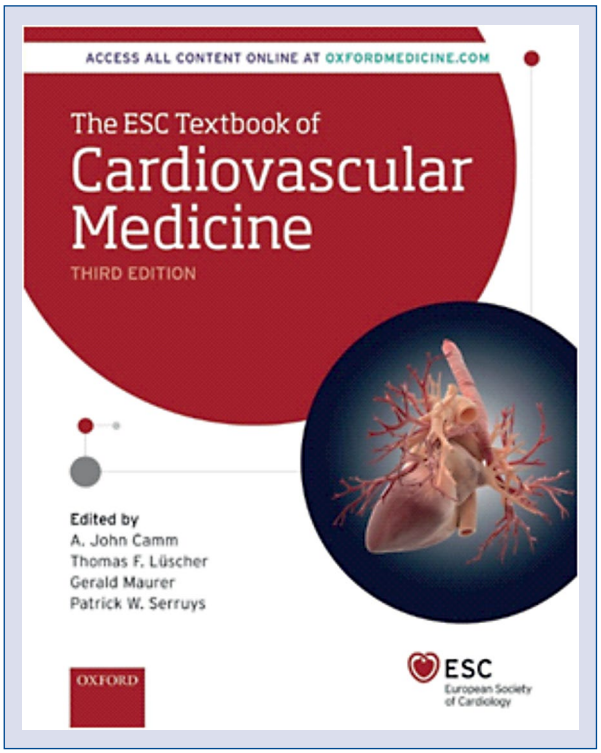


**Figure 4.** Front cover of the *ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine*, Oxford University Press, 2019.

**Conflict of interest:** None declared