The new electronic ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine

ESC CardioMed

Thomas F. Lüscher, John A. Camm, Gerald Maurer, Patrick Serruys

Education – the mission of the ESC

The education of trainees, postgraduate and established cardiologists alike has always been a critical component of the mission of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC). 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.

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 (fig. 1).

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, psychological factors, ethnicity, interpretation of trials and personalised medicine, to name but a few.

As such, the concept of a huge, primarily electronic textbook was born with four main editors, 63 section coordinators 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 database is available as a membership benefit for all Professional Members and Fellows of the European Society of Cardiology. For oth-

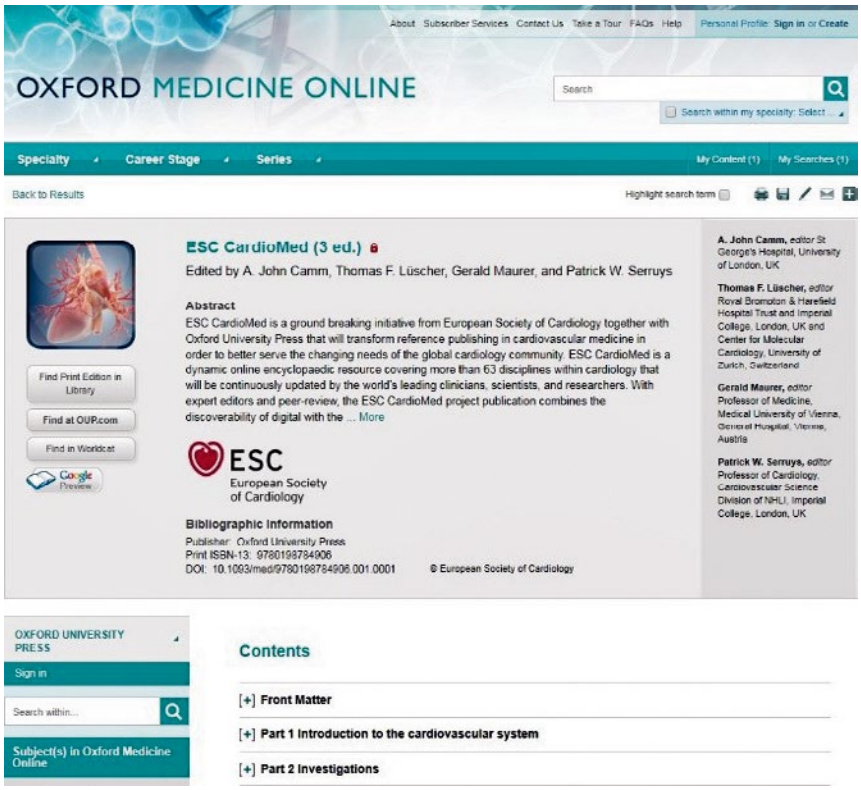


Figure 1: ESC CardioMed online.



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

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ers wishing to access the publication, annual subscriptions are available for individuals and institutions alike through the publisher.
In spring 2018 about a 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 in August 2018, the majority of the chapters, with a very few exceptions, will be accessible online. The database has 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. The imaging sections in particular 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 continually 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

Table 1: CardioMed table of contents.

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

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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).

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 hard 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 early in 2019 (fig. 3).

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 around the world and will turn out to be essential in their daily practice.

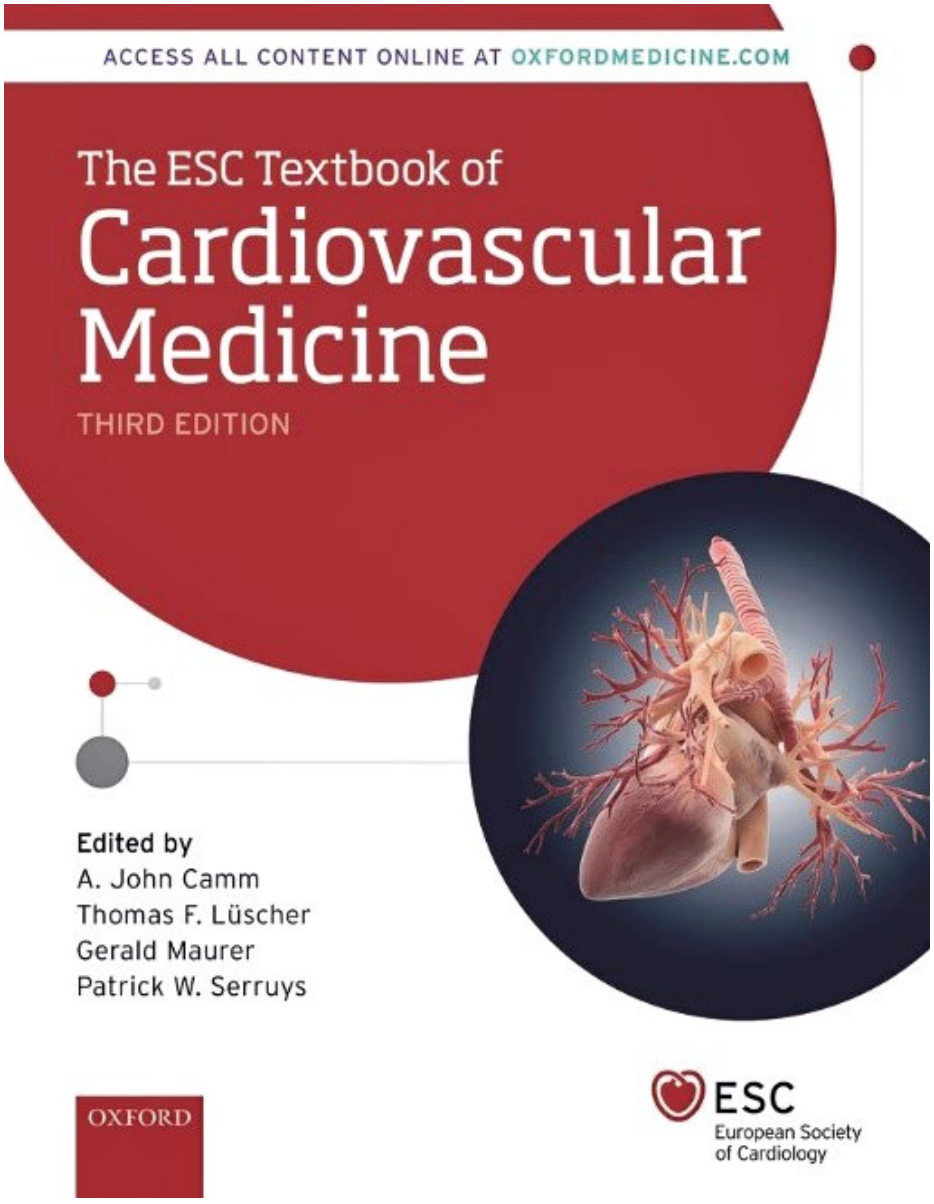


Figure 3: Print version of the ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine, Oxford University Press, 2019.

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