Special Issue

Diagnostic Challenges in Sports Cardiology

Message from the Guest Editors

When assessing professional or amateur athletes, sports cardiologists are often faced with the problem of differential diagnosis between physiological adaptation to intensive training and suspicion of heart disease. Both false positive and false negative findings may lead to detrimental consequences for the athletes. Recent studies have proposed several algorithms which are helpful in the cardiological assessment of athletes at screening and those with suspicion of a cardiac condition. However, there is limited knowledge on specific groups of athletes, including adolescents, women, veteran or late start athletes, athletes of different ethnical backgrounds or athletes with disabilities. There is also a paucity of prospective data on athletes with known cardiovascular conditions helpful in decision-making towards continued sports eligibility. Finally, diagnostic efficacy in sports cardiology may be improved by application of new imaging techniques, biomarkers, and other promising testing methods. All research related to the described area, including systematic reviews, original research or communications as well as case reports are highly welcomed.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Lukasz Malek

Department of Epidemiology, Cardiovascular Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, National Institute of Cardiology, Niemodlińska str 33, 04-635 Warsaw, Poland

Prof. Dr. Marek Postuła

Department of Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology, Centre for Preclinical Research and Technology (CEPT), Medical University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland

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Diagnostics
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
diagnostics@mdpi.com

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Andreas Kjaer

Department of Clinical Physiology, Nuclear Medicine & PET National University Hospital, Rigshospitalet, University of Copenhagen, Blegdamsvej 9, DK-2100 Copenhagen, Denmark

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