

Special Issue

New Perspective in Atrial Fibrillation

Message from the Guest Editor

In spite of the large volume of associated research, the pathophysiological mechanisms involved in atrial fibrillation (AF) onset and recurrence remain uncertain. This may explain why the performances of thromboembolic and bleeding prediction scores in AF patients are limited. Indeed, all of the mechanisms associated with atrial remodeling and the development of atrial cardiopathy are also likely to promote the development of AF. This recent concept of atrial cardiopathy suggests that the real trigger of stroke may be an abnormal atrial substrate rather than the atrial rhythm itself. In this setting, AF could be seen as a symptom of atrial cardiopathy rather than a risk factor of stroke. In the absence of validated clinical markers of atrial cardiopathy, the search for AF remains the cornerstone of cardioembolic stroke prevention for now. The aim of this Special Issue is to gather basic research as well as pathophysiological and epidemiological papers focused on the relationship between atrial substrate and atrial fibrillation onset, recurrence, and outcomes.

Guest Editor

Dr. Charles Guenancia

1. Department of Cardiology, University Hospital, 14 rue Paul Gaffarel, Dijon, France
2. PEC 2 Laboratory, EA 7460, UFR Sciences de Santé, Université de Bourgogne, Dijon, France

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Journal of Clinical Medicine
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
jcm@mdpi.com

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