Special Issue

Aortic Valve Replacement: Current Clinical Practice and Future Challenges

Message from the Guest Editors

Cardiac surgery has undergone tremendous evolution in recent years, resulting in an operative mortality as low as 1%–3% in patients that underwent elective cardiac surgery. Calcified aortic valve stenosis represents the most common acquired valvular pathology; thus, aortic valve replacement (AVR) is currently the second most frequently performed cardiac surgery after isolated CABG. Besides conventional surgical AVR (SAVR) with either mechanical or biological prosthesis, the evolution of minimally invasive techniques and transcatheter procedures (TAVI, "valve in valve" procedure) paved the way for a more sophisticated treatment. However, the employment of these techniques in intermediate- as well as low-risk patients is still lacking of convincing long-term results. Undoubtedly, all these new technologies and technical advances of the current conventional prostheses enabled heart surgeons to plan and perform patient-tailored management with enhanced outcomes, quality of services, and quality of life. Our aim is to provide the readers with the cutting-edge and up-to-date advances, as well as to discuss the future challenges in this topic.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Journal of Personalized Medicine is one of the few journals that covers the diverse areas involved in the field, including research at basic, translational, and clinical levels. It focuses on "omics"-level studies that seek to define the basis of interindividual variation in susceptibility for a disease, its prognosis or definition of clinical
subsets, and response to therapy (pharmacogenomics). We are also interested in systems biology as it relates to interindividual variation, and research on new methodologies, informatics, and biostatistics, in the aforementioned areas.

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