

Foreword



Magdi El-Omar

Dr Magdi El-Omar is a Consultant Interventional Cardiologist at the Manchester Heart Centre and an Honorary Senior Lecturer at the University of Manchester, Manchester, UK. He graduated from St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, in 1988 and undertook his postgraduate General Medical training in London and Oxford. He then completed his General Cardiology training in Birmingham, Oxford and Wales, before subspecialising in coronary intervention. The latter included a 2.5-year clinical/research fellowship in interventional cardiology at the Cardiovascular Research Foundation and the New York University Medical Centre, New York, USA. During his time there, he worked closely with leaders in the field, including Drs Greg Stone, Martin Leon, Gary Roubin, Frederick Feit and Aaron Marcus. Dr El-Omar has been involved in research for over 25 years. He undertook a 2-year British Heart Foundation Junior Research Fellowship in basic science (diabetic cardiomyopathy in a rat model) in 1997–8, which led to the award of an MD degree by the University of London. He has since been actively involved in clinical research, especially in the fields of acute coronary syndromes and coronary intervention. He has authored more than 65 peer-reviewed articles, mostly in high-impact journals. He has been local principal investigator for several landmark, international multi-centre trials (e.g. HORIZONS-AMI, INFUSE-AMI, TOTAL, TWILIGHT, etc.). He is actively involved in education and training and is a course co-director of the Complex Cardiovascular Catheter Therapeutics Conference in the USA.

These are exciting times at *Heart International*. Our journal has seen some changes recently: *Heart International* is now being published by Touch Medical Media and I am delighted to work alongside Dr Rajesh Davé in the role of Editor-in-Chief.

In this edition we include a letter that provides our personal introductions, along with the publishing aims of the journal. We also describe our collaboration with the International Complex Cardiovascular Catheter Therapeutics (C3) conference. *Heart International* will be the official journal of C3 and this joint venture seeks to share best practice in interventional cardiology.

This latest edition of *Heart International* includes a range of articles providing valuable insight, including original research findings and in-depth reviews. The article I've chosen to highlight from this edition, by Figini, et al. discusses the potential to expand the role of stent enhancement in percutaneous coronary intervention as described in three exemplar cases. Traditionally, stent enhancement is reserved for detecting and resolving under-expansion of implanted stents; these cases demonstrate benefit when using this technique to assess stent failure, manage intraprocedural stent disruption and treat aorto-ostial and bifurcation lesions. These findings are of additional value given the relative ease and low associated costs with which stent enhancement can be employed.

Heart International would like to thank our reviewers and editors for their hard work in presenting valuable content to our readership, and we thank the Editorial Board for their invaluable support and guidance in the development of the journal content. Finally, we thank our contributors and authors for providing thought-provoking and insightful content, which will benefit us all as we seek to improve outcomes in cardiology. □