Editor's Welcome

Dear colleagues!

We present to your attention the next, forty-third issue of the International Heart and Vascular Disease Journal that includes the leading, original, review articles.

The "Leading Article" section begins with an overview of the application of artificial intelligence (AI) in cardiology. In particular, it can be used to assess the results of diagnostic procedures and predict the risk of complications. In the future, AI may be used to select therapeutic tactics. The strengths and weaknesses of AI need to be assessed in order for cardiologists to use this technology effectively.

Four papers are presented in the "Original Articles" section. The first article analyzes arrhythmias and heart rate variability indices in the presence and absence of silent myocardial ischemia. Patients with silent ischemia were found to have normal autonomic innervation of the heart, which may be an additional reason for less severe arrhythmias. In addition, ventricular extrasystoles and tachycardias are less frequent in this case according to the Holter monitoring, indicating a milder course of coronary heart disease. The second article focuses on the determination of some parameters of physical activity and their associations with disease prevention among men engaged in mobile work in the Arctic zone of Russia, depending on the length of service as an expeditionary shift worker. The sample consisted of 750 men aged 25-54 years, with a response rate of 82.4%. Regardless of the length of service in the expeditionary shift work, the lowest level of responsibility for their health was found in the groups with low physical activity.

Two other original articles focused on metabolic disorders. One examined cardiometabolic risk and body composition characteristics in women with rheumatoid arthritis (RA). Patients with RA are characterized by a predisposition for overweight/obesity and high cardiometabolic risk. The authors found that with decreasing BMI, there is a tendency to develop sarcopenia/sarcopenic obesity, which is associated with greater pain intensity on a visual analog scale. Another article evaluated the association of apelin-12 with other indeces of visceral obesity in obese patients. The study included 167 patients aged 40-70 years without cardiovascular disease (CVD). All were assessed for cardiovascular risk (CVR) using the SCORE-2 scale. The results indicate that apelin-12 can be used in the diagnostic protocols of patients with visceral obesity and high CVR.

The "Review Articles" section presentes the work devoted to analyzing the problems of early diagnosis and prevention of CVDs in the countries of Sub-Saharan Africa. CVDs contribute to about 13% of all-cause mortality and to 38% of all deaths due to non-communicable diseases in the countries of the region. CVD risk factors are often more prevalent in areas of uncontrolled urbanization and among people with low income and education levels. Early diagnosis and prevention are limited by resource constraints, socio-economic inequalities and healthcare system problems.

We invite everybody to collaborate with the journal. We are waiting for your original papers, review articles, discussions, and opinions about problems, treatment and prophylaxis recommendations

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