Preface

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The introduction of intracardiac echocardiography (ICE) undoubtedly represents a major advancement in cardiac imaging, and it has become an integral part of a variety of percutaneous interventional and electrophysiology procedures. ICE allows for real-time assessment of cardiac anatomy, can guide catheter manipulation in relation to the different anatomic structures, and provides invaluable monitoring for potential complications, such as thrombus formation or pericardial effusion. The uniqueness of ICE compared with other intraprocedural imaging modalities, such as transesophageal echocardiography, is that it can be performed by the primary operator and under conscious sedation, without the need for general anesthesia. In addition, ICE has helped to reduce fluoroscopy exposure to both the patient and the operator, with a potential beneficial effect on total procedure time and outcomes. This issue is entirely focused on the utility of ICE for the invasive electrophysiology procedure and aims to provide the readers with a comprehensive, state-of-the-art review of the utility of ICE by international leaders in the field. Each article highlights the crucial role of ICE to identify the anatomy associated with different types of

cardiac arrhythmias and guide the procedural approach. We wish to thank all the authors for their outstanding contributions.

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