Kenneth A. Ellenbogen, Mark A. Wood (eds): Cardiac Pacing and ICDs (5th edition)

Blackwell Publishing, Malden 2008, ISBN: 978-1-4051-6350-7

Luigi Mansi • Carmela Nappi

Published online: 5 October 2011
© Springer-Verlag 2011

The editors of this publication are Kenneth A. Ellenbogen and Mark A. Wood, Professors of Medicine at the Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond and, respectively, Director and Assistant Director of the Electrophysiology and Pacing Laboratory.

This fifth edition presents major improvements with respect to the previous edition, integrating new recent developments in the field. A great effort has been made to produce material in a very specialized discussion accessible not only to experts in the field, but also to beginners and/or noncardiologists interested in the topic.

The book is structured into 11 chapters totalling 558 pages including many images and tables.

In the first four chapters, the authors describe in detail electrophysiological and haemodynamic bases of implantable cardioverter-defibrillators (ICD). Analysing the recent literature, they identify the main indications for their utilization and the rationale suggesting implantation of a permanent or a temporary tool. This difficult decision has to be taken on the basis of deep knowledge derived from extensive and detailed analysis able to distinguish heart diseases in which abnormal rhythm and conduction of the signal have an aetiological foundation with respect to those

where they are a side effect of other diseases (such as acute myocardial infarction).

A key further issue is the contribution that the authors give in the subsequent seven chapters starting with the report of techniques of installation and removal of ICDs. In this second part of the book, information is also presented on their short- and long-term management, on the verification of their in vivo operation and on their role in therapy of cardiac resynchronization.

The publication represents a useful guide for the selection of patients who are candidates for an ICD, the choice of the most suitable system and management in the follow-up of treated subjects.

The book is mainly addressed to electrophysiologists, but is certainly useful also for students, general cardiologists or other clinical specialists. It can be interesting also for physicists, nurses and biomedical engineers. We suggest this publication to nuclear physicians and residents interested in nuclear cardiology regarding growing interest connected with old and new radionuclide procedures, including receptor imaging, in diagnosing and evaluating patients with cardiac diseases affecting rhythm and in assessing conduction of the signal.

L. Mansi (✉) • C. Nappi
Nuclear Medicine, Second University of Naples,
Naples, Italy
e-mail: luigi.mansi@unina2.it