
Learning Imaging

Series Editors:

R. Ribes · A. Luna · P. Ros

R. Ribes · P. Kuschnir · A. Luna
J. C. Vilanova · J. M. Jimenez-Hoyuela
(Eds.)

Learning Cardiac Imaging

 Springer

RAMÓN RIBES MD PhD
Reina Sofia University Hospital
14005 Córdoba
Spain
ribesb@gmail.com

PAOLA KUSCHNIR MD
Centro de Diagnóstico Enrique Rossi
2777 Buenos Aires
Argentina
paolakus@fibertel.com.ar

ANTONIO LUNA MD
Clinica Las Nieves Sercosa
Carmelo Torres, 2
23007 Jaén
Spain
aluna70@sercosa.com

JOAN C. VILANOVA
Department of Magnetic Resonance
Clinica Girona
Lorenzana, 36
17002 Girona
Spain
kvilanova@comg.es

JOSÉ MANUEL JIMENEZ-HOYUELA MD PhD
Hospital Regional Universitario
Carlos Haya
Servicio de Medicina Nuclear
Avenida Carlos Haya, s/n
29010 Málaga
Spain
josem.jimenezhoyuela.sspa@juntadeandalucia.es

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“To Anabel Ribes Bautista
for her always sensible advice.”

RAMÓN RIBES

“To all my
teachers and *colleagues*
who I deeply admire and appreciate.
To my *parents*, my *husband*,
and *daughter*, who enrich my *life*.”

PAOLA KUSCHNIR

“To my Marias”

ANTONIO LUNA

“To my wife *Cris* and my children
Cristina and *Eduard* for their love
and for accommodating the sacrifices of
personal time.”

JOAN C. VILANOVA

“To my *Parents* and my wife.”

JOSE MANUEL JIMENEZ-HOYUELA

Preface

After the publication of *Learning Diagnostic Imaging*, which was an introductory teaching file to the ten radiological subspecialties included in the American Boards of Radiology, we began to write a series of teaching files on each radiological subspecialty.

If the first book of the series was mainly aimed at residents and provided them with an introductory tool to the study of radiology, the subsequent volumes of the series try to provide the reader with an introduction to the study of each radiological subspecialty.

In *Learning Cardiac Imaging*, we intend to review cardiac imaging from the perspective of the six imaging modalities usually performed to obtain anatomic and functional information of the heart.

In old days, conventional radiographs gave us some information about the anatomy and, only secondarily, the pathophysiology of the heart. With the advent of echocardiography, the heart could be studied dynamically. Nuclear Medicine and Cardiac MR allowed the study of cardiac function. 32- and 64-detector multislice CT let us obtain images of the coronary tree in a noninvasive approach.

Cardiac imaging is complex and many health care professionals are needed, firstly, in the obtention and, secondly, in the interpretation of the images. Not only radiologists, cardiologists, and nuclear medicine physicians are needed, specialized nurses and technicians are indispensable to obtain diagnostic images of such a dynamic anatomic structure as the heart.

The authorship of the book reflects its multidisciplinary approach of the book. Only the cooperation of radiologists, cardiologists, and nuclear medicine physicians has made this book possible.

The multiplicity of imaging modalities currently performed in the study of the heart – conventional radiology, conventional angiography, echocardiography, multislice CT, magnetic resonance, and nuclear medicine – is one of the most distinguishing features of cardiac imaging and it makes it one of the most attractive areas of the radiological knowledge.

Córdoba, Spain, September 10, 2009

RAMÓN RIBES

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Contributing Authors

XAVIER ALBERT
Department of Magnetic Resonance
Clínica Girona
Girona
Spain

GUSTAVO AVEGLIANO
Cardiac Imaging Department
Instituto Cardiovascular de Buenos Aires
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Research Group for Computational Imaging &
Simulation Technologies in Biomedicine (CISTIB)
Department of Information and Communication
Technologies, Universitat Pompeu Fabra
Barcelona
Spain

JOAQUIM BARCELÓ
Department of Magnetic Resonance
Clínica Girona
Girona
Spain

ANTONIO GUITIÉRREZ CARDO
Servicio de Medicina Nuclear
Hospital Regional Universitario
Málaga
Spain

JOSÉ MANUEL JIMÉNEZ-HOYUELA GARCÍA
Servicio de Medicina Nuclear
Hospital Regional Universitario
Málaga
Spain

ANTONIO LUNA
Department of Magnetic Resonance
Clínica Las Nieves
Jaén
Spain

DOLORES MARTÍNEZ DEL VALLE TORRES
Servicio de Medicina Nuclear
Hospital Regional Universitario
Málaga
Spain

MANEL MORALES
Department of Magnetic Resonance
Clínica Girona
Girona
Spain

SIMEÓN ORTEGA LOZANO
Servicio de Medicina Nuclear
Hospital Regional Universitario
Málaga
Spain

LUCIO T. PADILLA
Centro de Diagnostico Dr. E. Rossi
Cardiac Imaging Department
Instituto Cardiovascular de Buenos Aires
Buenos Aires University
Buenos Aires
Argentina

ESPERANZA RAMOS MORENO
Servicio de Medicina Nuclear
Hospital Regional Universitario
Málaga
Spain

RAMÓN RIBES
Interventional Radiology and MR Units
Reina Sofía University Hospital
Córdoba
Spain

RICARDO RONDEROS
Cardiac Imaging Department
Instituto Cardiovascular de Buenos Aires
Buenos Aires,
Argentina

SANTIAGO ROSSI
Centro de Diagnostico Dr. E. Rossi
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Radiology, Favaloro University
Buenos Aires
Argentina

M. AGUSTINA SCIANCALEPORE
Centro de Diagnostico Dr. E. Rossi
Cardiac Imaging Department
Instituto Cardiovascular de Buenos Aires
Buenos Aires
Argentina

MARCELO TRIVI
Cardiac Imaging Department
Instituto Cardiovascular de Buenos Aires
Buenos Aires
Argentina

JOAN C. VILANOVA
Department of Magnetic Resonance
Clínica Girona
Girona
Spain
