JACC: Cardiovascular Imaging provides readers with a broad, balanced view of all aspects of cardiovascular imaging. The Journal includes original clinical research on non-invasive and invasive imaging techniques including echocardiography, CT, CMR, nuclear, optical imaging, and cine-angiography. Advances in basic science and molecular imaging which are likely to substantially influence the clinical practice of medicine in the next decade (in diagnostic performance, understanding of the atherogenic basis of the disease, and therapy) are also featured. Other content will emphasize imaging for the practicing cardiologist, advocacy and practice management, and state-of-the-art reviews.

JACC: Cardiovascular Imaging Maintains a strong clinical focus with a broad appeal to the practicing clinician. Highlights the unique as well as complementary nature of each imaging modality within the "imaging continuum," helping clinicians navigate through "modality parochialism" to scientifically identify which modality works best in what situation, and eventually developing "imaging algorithms." Creates a dynamic continuing education forum for practicing clinicians with the obvious goal of improving patient care and outcomes. Harnesses the web to create a live, dynamic and interactive publication, in terms of content, learning, critique, and debate.

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Introduction

JACC: Cardiovascular Imaging publishes research articles on current and future clinical applications of noninvasive and invasive imaging techniques including echocardiography, CT, CMR, nuclear, angiography, and other novel techniques. JACC: Cardiovascular Imaging also publishes manuscripts related to basic science and molecular imaging with potential clinical applicability. It provides a forum for encouraging a lively and vigorous debate on all aspects of imaging, including imaging algorithms and the hierarchy of various imaging modalities.

General Guidelines for Submission of Original Research Papers

Because of the printed page limitations, the Editors require that manuscripts not exceed 4,500 words (including references and figure legends). Note that if you are asked to revise your paper an alternate word limit may be specified by the Editors. An outcomes expert/associate editor will review such manuscripts after provisional acceptance. If needed, the Editors will work with the authors in revising the manuscript to highlight the important features of the manuscript. Illustrations and tables should be limited to those necessary to highlight key data. Please provide gender-specific data, when appropriate, in describing outcomes of epidemiologic analyses or clinical trials; or specifically state that no gender-based differences were present. Basic science or experimental studies should have potential clinical applicability. We would prefer manuscripts that offer an algorithmic approach to the use of diagnostic modalities for the best cost-effective use in clinical medicine.

The manuscript should be arranged as follows: 1) title page; 2) structured abstract and key words; 3) condensed abstract; 4) abbreviations list; 5) text; 6) acknowledgments (if applicable); 7) references; 8) figure titles and legends; and 9) tables. Page numbering should begin with the title page.

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a) Comprehensively illustrate a typical spectrum of important classic features or significantly novel findings;

b) Provide unique insight into fundamental mechanisms of cardiovascular disease or pathophysiology; comprehensively illustrate major, but less well known, facets of an abnormality; or clarify a new therapy;

c) Present hypothesis generating and/or cutting edge concepts through images;

d) Present previously unavailable/unclear correlations between clinical imaging and pathology.

Though often presented within the context of a clinical scenario, this section is not meant to be a vehicle for case reports or a substitute for “Images in Medicine” like features. It is expected that submissions will typically involve images from a number of subjects. Only submissions that align closely with the above criteria will be processed for this section and will be subject to regular peer review.

A series of approximately 10 to 20 images should be provided. Text should consist of a title page, an introduction of 150 words, a descriptive figure legend of up to 150 words per figure, and—only if absolutely necessary—up to 3 references. Movie clips can be submitted in any of the standard formats (see “Video Requirements”). If movies are used, they must be linked to a specific figure and be mentioned in the text.

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Translating biomedical research from the laboratory bench, clinical trials or global observations to the care of individual patients can expedite discovery of new diagnostic tools and treatments through multidisciplinary collaboration. Effective translational medicine facilitates implementation of evolving strategies for prevention and treatment of disease in the community. The Institute of Medicine identified 2 areas needing improvement: testing basic research findings in properly designed clinical trials and, once the safety and efficacy of an intervention has been confirmed, more efficiently promulgating its adoption into standard practice (Sung NS, Crowley WF, Genel M. The meaning of translational research and why it matters. JAMA 2008;299:3140–3148).

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has recognized the importance of translational biomedical research, emphasizing multifunctional collaborations between researchers and clinicians to leverage new technology and accelerate the delivery of new therapies to patients (http://www.ncats.nih.gov/about/about.html). Authors are asked to place their work in the context of the scientific continuum, by identifying impediments and challenges requiring further investigation and anticipating next steps and directions for future research.

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