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The PCR-EAPCI Percutaneous Interventional Cardiovascular Medicine Textbook is the successful realisation of the combined and constantly growing reflections, actions and experience of the entire “PCR Family” and it will become the benchmark at the core of education for our community in the future.

HISTORICAL ROOTS AND COLLABORATIONS: EUROPCCR

Since 1983, our motto, “innovation in education and sharing” has been the basis of all our actions. Thanks to a tight, strong and efficient collaboration with Marc Doncieux and Europa Organisation, by sharing both a common vision (“together we achieve more”) and common ethics (our joint commitment to integrity, responsibility and excellence) we have progressively built innovative processes in education and established fruitful European collaborations. This resulted in the annual PCR course of worldwide renown, a platform of exchange widely open to the whole cardiovascular community and with its own course book.

Sharing these same values with Patrick W. Serruys (Director of the Rotterdam course Euro-CVS), we created EuroPCR (2000) and mutually matured the concept of one annual Course with its own course book to one annual course with a continually accessible website, PCRonline (2002) and a monthly published journal, EuroIntervention (2006).

The constructive and open-minded spirit of the former Presidents of the ESC - European Society of Cardiology, Jean Pierre Bassand and Michael Tendera, allowed to us to join the forces of EuroPCR, EuroIntervention Journal and the ESC Working Group on Coronary Interventions for the creation of the EAPCI - European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions (2007), a registered branch of the ESC.

FROM EUROPCCR TO THE “PCR FAMILY”

Progressively, we saw a growing number of open-minded and passionate young people uniting around the EuroPCR concept, dedicated to serving the needs of the cardiovascular community, committing to achieving a common mission, sharing the same concept of “innovation in education at work” and continuously searching for excellence at work.

The “PCR Family” was created.

Its mission is “to serve the needs of each individual patient by helping the cardiovascular community share knowledge, experience and practice”.

Again, thanks to Europa Organisation, the “PCR Family” extended its educational activities well beyond EuroPCR towards PCRonline, PCR London Valves, AsiaPCR/SingLIVE, GulfPCRGIM, PCR on the road, with PCR-branded sessions delivered in international meetings; PCR Editions, producing Textbooks and EuroIntervention; PCR Seminars, now delivered in Europe and India... and each one - in all we do - always sharing the same ethics and values, along with a great respect for cultural differences.

This allows the “PCR Family” to achieve greater levels of innovation and creativity in education for the benefit of all patients who present with cardiovascular diseases, while taking into consideration local context and/or cultural differences as opportunities for widening our common views.

The PCR-EAPCI Percutaneous Interventional Cardiovascular Medicine Textbook represents a successful achievement from a combination of all the above “innovation, creativity, search for excellence, passion, open-mindedness and inclusive reasoning” for the benefit of each individual patient and the increasingly close ties between PCR and EAPCI.

The PCR-EAPCI Textbook is the living illustration of the “together we achieve more” idea and concept.

It represents the ability of a small group of editors (Patrick W. Serruys, William Wijns, Eric Eeckhout, Alec Vahanian, Marc Van Sambeek and Rodney De Palma), to unite 266 authors around a coherent project, a comprehensive and exhaustive educational tool which will serve the whole interventional medical community.

**NEXT STEP: BUILDING THE FUTURE**

This book may have its foundations and its origins in the past, but it contains the future within it. The seeds of tomorrow are in these pages.

Our future step and goal is to embed - as the central and critical core of our learning – all of the chapters of the Textbook across all the PCR-EAPCI educational activities, encouraging all our worldwide community to challenge what is being proposed, to constantly press speakers, trainers and fellow participants for greater clarity, understanding and up-to-date knowledge.

The chapters from the PCR-EAPCI Textbook should be logically linked and put into perspective along with the daily practice and experience of future participants and of new and innovative forms of educative activities. This will require additional input from academic and clinical teachers, creating innovative formats adapted to local needs, expectations, constraints and regulations.

The expertise of PCRonline ensures that the latest developments concerning the Textbook will be echoed in the various electronic mediums (such as the iPad) and on the internet (using our website experience). The Textbook has been designed from the beginning to be constantly evolving.
A group of PCR-EAPCI members (Andreas Baumbach, Christoph Naber, and Alec Vahanian) have initiated and taken on this ambitious task. They will surely bring together “new-comers”, who will share PCR’s values (“we must work for our successors”). These new-comers will be unified around a coherent project of a new innovative model of educative processes, adapted to the coevolution of our world; stimulating creativity, constantly searching for excellence, endowed with a self-critical spirit, and committed to the continuous evaluation of what we do for the improvement of the quality of care delivered to each individual patient.

STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

Our ability to evolve constantly, to be reactive and to offer such cutting edge tools is again due, in large part, to the strong and very efficient partnership we developed with Marc Doncieux and Europa Organisation. This Textbook embodies many of the innovations that have sprung from this partnership, and its strengths.

These creative strengths will allow the PCR-EAPCI Percutaneous Intervventional Cardiovascular Medicine Textbook to play a key role in our ability to offer the best care to the individual patient. It is part of a process coming out of the core of what is PCR and the EAPCI, building on what was before, and embodying what remains active and vital... our experiences, ideas and ethics.

By sharing this spirit of “innovation in education at work”, by joining our strengths, together PCR and EAPCI will “achieve more”. Once we know how to share, we can consider the PCR-EAPCI Textbook as a source of inspiration to enable “new-comers” to innovate, while always taking into consideration both the science of adult learning and respect for differences and cultures, considering them all as a great strength.

Our experience has led us to this today, to federate strength to strength, creatively, together, opening a great future.