

# Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance Imaging

Textbook and Atlas

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# Preface

The first edition of this book was published in Germany in 2005 at a time when cardiac MRI (CMR) gained increasing interest for diagnosis of cardiovascular diseases. With the ongoing technical advances of MRI over recent years, CMR has rendered highly effective for clinical applications and proven unique performance in the evaluation of cardiovascular anatomy, physiology, and pathophysiology. The continuously increasing interest in CMR is mainly driven by its ability to provide high resolution anatomical, functional and structural information with unique soft tissue contrast without the need for any ionizing radiation.

Over the last years a huge number of scientific publications on CMR methods and its clinical application to the diagnosis of cardiovascular diseases has been published resulting in some major advances of MRI in the cardiovascular field. With the 2nd edition of this book, the current state of CMR including all relevant recent technical advances will be covered, and the publication in English will bring the fascinating CMR technique to a broader international readership.

We like to express our gratitude to all authors who did a tremendous job in providing a comprehensive and excellent state-of-the-art description of their topics. We are grateful

to the international publishers of journals and books, who gave their permission to reproduce figures from original publications. Many thanks to Mrs. Lisa Leick and Dr. William Adamson, Ulm, who as native speaker carefully proofread the chapters. We appreciate very much the substantial financial support of the Rudolf and Clothilde Eberhardt Foundation Ulm. Without their grant this book could not have been realized and published. Finally, we are also indebted to the Publishers, particularly the readers Mrs. Eva Wallstein, Dr. Annett Gesien and Mrs. Ellen Sudholt, for their extremely valuable readership, and the management of Schattauer Publishers, Mr. Bergemann and Dr. Bertram, for their valuable and consistent support for publishing this book.

We hope that the interested reader will read this book with great pleasure and will take advantage of this information for his/her daily work in experimental research and/or clinical routine. We appreciate very much the reader's response to this book and look forward to receiving comments and suggestions for the upcoming editions of the book.

Ulm and Berlin, August 2012

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