

## BOOK REPORT

# Review of *The EAE Textbook of Echocardiography* by Leda Galiuto et al.

Daniel De Backer\*

Leda Galiuto, Luigi Badano, Kevin Fox, Rosa Sicari, José Luis Zamorano (Eds): *The EAE Textbook of Echocardiography*. Oxford University Press, 2011, 488 pp., ISBN-13: 9780199599639

*The EAE Textbook of Echocardiography* is the official textbook of the European Association of Echocardiography and is jointly sponsored by the European Society of Cardiology. The editors were able to attract a team of 50 expert cardiologist echocardiographers. In 488 pages, this textbook covers most aspects of echocardiography, from the basics to innovative imaging techniques. The first chapters cover ultrasound imaging principles and transthoracic and transesophageal evaluation. An important part of the book consists of chapters on dedicated techniques such as quantification of left ventricular function and synchrony by strain imaging and speckle tracking, contrast-enhanced echocardiography, and three-dimensional imaging. It is followed by a description of the evaluation of heart function (including some lesser known aspects such as evaluation of atrial function) using all of these techniques. The second half of the book is devoted to the state of the art of the evaluation of most cardiac diseases with echocardiography. The chapters on the evaluation of valvular diseases and cardiomyopathies are particularly well developed. There is a short chapter on non-cardiac vascular echography, but this chapter focuses mostly on chronic vascular diseases and is of limited interest. A chapter is dedicated to perioperative assessment, and another to evaluation of the patient in the emergency department. However, the care of the critically ill patient (that is, myocardial depression in sepsis, heart-lung interactions, and prediction of fluid responsiveness) is not covered in this textbook. Each chapter also includes a

very attractive personal perspective by the expert. This helps the reader to find his or her way in the jungle of techniques and indices.

The book is richly illustrated with close to 500 illustrations, which are of high quality and are self-explanatory. It also includes a DVD, and an online version of the textbook, with additional videos and downloadable Power-Point figures, is available.

Who should read this book? The reader should understand that this book is not oriented to intensive care practice but rather to the assessment of cardiovascular alterations with echocardiography. As such, it would probably be of greater benefit to anesthesiologists or intensivists who have advanced echocardiographic knowledge and who desire to improve their knowledge in specific fields of echocardiographic assessment or to cardiologists in training than to regular anesthesiologists or intensivists with a basic knowledge of echocardiography.

In conclusion, this textbook is particularly useful for trained echocardiographers who wish to update their knowledge of new techniques in the evaluation of heart function and diseases.

### Competing interests

The author declares that he has no competing interests.

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\*Correspondence: ddebacke@ulb.ac.be  
Department of Intensive Care, Erasme University Hospital, Free University of Brussels, Route de Lennik 808, B-1070 Brussels, Belgium