Announcement

Review Focus on
The Cardiac Myocyte Sarcomere

to be published in March, 2008

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Cardiovascular Research publishes occasional review series devoted to a specific research topic. These series may be accompanied by high quality, original research papers on this theme. All papers are subjected to the normal peer review process (an editorial decision is usually made within 22 days of receipt of a manuscript).

A Review Focus on the cardiac myocyte sarcomere is scheduled to appear in March, 2008. Recent evidence has substantially expanded our perception of the role of sarcomeres in systolic and diastolic function in the heart beat and in the regulation of contractility. This expanded view includes identification of cooperative and mechanical feedback mechanisms intrinsic to the sarcomeres that are significant determinants of cardiac dynamics independent of membrane-controlled fluxes of Ca\(^{2+}\) and in the Frank-Starling relation. The sarcomeric processes, which are rate limiting during the cardiac cycle, are modified by phosphorylation of regulatory proteins, by mutations linked to hypertrophic and dilated cardiomyopathies, and in the heart failure syndrome. Sarcomeric proteins localized mainly in the Z-disk are also involved in signaling that controls myocyte growth and function.

Preliminary topics of invited review articles related to the above topic include:

1. Assembly and disassembly of sarcomeres
2. Crossbridges and cooperative activation of cardiac thin filaments
3. Cardiac dynamics and Ca\(^{2+}\)-dependent thin filament activation
4. Sarcomeric proteins in signaling and signal transduction
5. Cardiac function and modulation by sarcomere length
6. Sarcomeric dysfunction in systolic and diastolic heart failure

We invite you to contribute original manuscripts to the upcoming Review Focus on the Cardiac Myocyte Sarcomere based on your research related to the above-mentioned topics. Other topics of pertinence to the sarcomere will also be considered

Deadline for submission of manuscripts: August 1st, 2007
Expected publication date: March 1st, 2008