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The *Methodist DeBakey Cardiovascular Journal (MDCVJ)* is published 4 times a year by Houston Methodist Hospital, Houston, Texas. The journal provides an update from Houston Methodist DeBakey Heart & Vascular Center specialists about leading-edge research, diagnosis, and treatments as well as occasional articles or commentary by others.

MDCVJ is written for physicians and should be relied upon for medical education purposes only. It does not provide a complete overview of the topics covered and should not replace the independent judgment of a physician about the appropriateness or risks of a procedure or treatment for a given patient.

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M. Valderrábano, M.D.

**DR. MIGUEL VALDERRÁBANO
SPEARHEADS SPECIAL
ISSUE ON CARDIAC
ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY FOR
THE METHODIST DEBAKEY
CARDIOVASCULAR JOURNAL**

The editors of the *Methodist DeBakey Cardiovascular Journal* extend a heartfelt thanks to Miguel Valderrábano, M.D., for serving as guest editor of this special issue on cardiac electrophysiology.

Dr. Valderrábano serves as chief of cardiac electrophysiology at the Houston Methodist DeBakey Heart & Vascular Center in Houston and is an associate professor of medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York. In addition to his academic and clinical work, Dr. Valderrábano leads a basic research laboratory that has received grant funding from the American Heart Association and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

After earning his medical degree from the Universidad Autónoma De Madrid in Madrid, Spain, Dr. Valderrábano moved to Los Angeles, California, to complete his internal medicine training at the UCLA-West Los Angeles VA Medical Center. He went on to pursue fellowships in cardiology and clinical cardiac electrophysiology at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, where he was named chief cardiology fellow in 2002. He then joined the faculty at the David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California at Los Angeles, where he was named director of the Implanted Devices Clinic at UCLA's Cardiac Arrhythmia Center and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Medical Center.

Dr. Valderrábano's research and clinical interests focus on finding more effective treatments for atrial fibrillation, and his laboratory uses optical mapping techniques in cultures of heart cells and other models to elucidate mechanisms of ventricular fibrillation and sudden cardiac death. In 2013, Dr. Valderrábano received a multimillion dollar grant from the NIH to explore the efficacy and safety of a new alcohol infusion treatment for people with persistent atrial fibrillation. Dr. Valderrábano holds memberships in the American Heart Association, American College of Cardiology, and the Heart Rhythm Society.