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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.

U.S. News & World Report ranks the Houston Methodist DeBakey Heart & Vascular Center's cardiology, cardiothoracic and vascular surgery programs No. 18 in the nation.

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J. P. Cooke, M.D., Ph.D.

**GUEST EDITOR JOHN COOKE
LEND'S EXPERTISE ON
SPECIAL CARDIOVASCULAR
REGENERATION ISSUE**

The *Methodist DeBakey Cardiovascular Journal* editors extend their warmest thanks to John P. Cooke, M.D., Ph.D., for serving as guest editor of this special issue on new insights and therapeutic avenues for atherosclerosis. Dr. Cooke chairs the Department of Cardiovascular Sciences at the Houston Methodist Research Institute, is director of the Center for Cardiovascular Regeneration at the Houston Methodist DeBakey Heart & Vascular Center, and is professor of cardiovascular medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College.

After earning his medical degree from Wayne State University and a Ph.D. in physiology from the Mayo Clinic, Dr. Cooke joined Harvard Medical School as an assistant professor of medicine. In 1990, he moved to Stanford University to spearhead the vascular biology and medicine program. He was later named professor of cardiovascular medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine and associate director of the Stanford Cardiovascular Institute, where he remained until his move to Houston Methodist Hospital in 2013.

Dr. Cooke has published more than 500 papers, reviews, book chapters, and patents based on discoveries from his research on vascular regeneration. He has been an advisor to government, industry, and professional societies—including the American Heart Association, American College of Cardiology, Society for Vascular Medicine, and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute—on matters of cardiovascular disease, public health, and technology. He also served as president of the Society for Vascular Medicine, director of the American Board of Vascular Medicine, and associate editor of *Vascular Medicine*. Dr. Cooke's translational research program focuses on vascular regeneration, with a specific interest in restoration or stimulation of endothelial functions such as vasodilation and angiogenesis using small molecules and stem cell therapies.