Drs. Raizner and Cooke Take the Lead in Special Issue on Supplements

The editors of the Methodist DeBakey Cardiovascular Journal are sincerely grateful to Albert E. Raizner, MD, MSCAI, FACC, and John P. Cooke, MD, PhD, for their enthusiastic and expert guidance in crafting this issue on supplements and the heart.

Dr. Raizner is vice-chairman of the Department of Cardiology at the Houston Methodist DeBakey Heart and Vascular Center, clinical professor at Baylor College of Medicine, and the senior partner of Interventional Cardiology Associates. He launched his cardiology career in Houston in 1972 when he was recruited to the faculty at Baylor College of Medicine. In 1979, he was appointed director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at Houston Methodist Hospital, a position he would hold for 25 years. In 2000, he helped found the Houston Methodist DeBakey Heart & Vascular Center and subsequently served as its first medical director.

Throughout his career, Dr. Raizner has been at the forefront of interventional cardiology, performing some of the first angioplasties and stent implantations in the country. His research—published in more than 200 scientific articles, 24 book chapters, and one book—contributed to the validation, approval, and use of stents in coronary arteries and led to methods to prevent restenosis. He has been instrumental in developing devices used in interventional cardiology and has been a principal investigator in dozens of clinical trials. He has shared his expertise serving on the Interventional Cardiology Board of the American Board of Internal Medicine, the Board of Trustees of the Society of Cardiac Angiography and Interventions, and as a fellow of numerous cardiology societies. He has been a consultant to NASA, the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the US Department of Justice.

Dr. Cooke is the chair of the Department of Cardiovascular Sciences at the Houston Methodist Research Institute, director of the Center for Cardiovascular Regeneration, and medical director of the RNA Therapeutics Program at the Houston Methodist DeBakey Heart & Vascular Center in Houston, Texas. His research focuses on vascular regeneration, vascular cell identity, and nuclear reprogramming. He trained in cardiovascular medicine and obtained a PhD in physiology at the Mayo Clinic, then was recruited to Harvard Medical School as an assistant professor of medicine. In 1990, he was recruited to Stanford University to spearhead the program in vascular biology and medicine. There he was appointed professor in the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine and associate director of the Stanford Cardiovascular Institute, where he served until joining Houston Methodist in 2013.

Dr. Cooke has published more than 550 research papers, position papers, reviews, book chapters, and patents in the arena of vascular medicine and biology, with over 30,000 citations. He serves on national and international committees that deal with cardiovascular diseases, including the American Heart Association, American College of Cardiology, Society for Vascular Medicine, and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. He has served as president of the Society for Vascular Medicine, director of the American Board of Vascular Medicine, and associate editor of Vascular Medicine.

We thank Dr. Raizner and Dr. Cooke for their time and expertise in creating this issue.