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Guidelines for the Management of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension

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Message from the Guest Editors

Pulmonary arterial hypertension is a serious disease caused by vasoconstriction and remodeling of the pulmonary vasculature, which, in the absence of appropriate therapy, ultimately leads to right ventricular failure and death. Recently published guidelines focus on the new hemodynamic definition of pulmonary hypertension, a new diagnostic algorithm with expedited referrals for severe or complex cases, the role of noninvasive work-up to distinguish among different groups of pulmonary hypertension, and the importance of risk assessment to guide treatment options in both incident and prevalent cases. In this Special Issue, we examine the application of these new concepts in the clinical management of pulmonary arterial hypertension, such as the role of echocardiography in identifying the probablity of pulmonary hypertension, new developments in imaging and exercise testing in the pulmonary hypertension work-up, and the technique of right heart catheterization to correctly identify various clinical phenotypes of pulmonary hypertension. Finally, and importantly, we describe the integrated diagnostic approach and treatment algorithm in patients with pulmonary arterial hypertension.

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