

# PREFACE

This book provides a state-of-the-art overview of mechanical circulatory support devices and their role in the care of patients with advanced heart failure. It is aimed at healthcare teams around the world who are involved in the patient care, research, and teaching of advanced heart failure; those in training; and the interested lay public. Situations in which a patient with advanced heart failure is evaluated as well as cared for before and after the implantation of mechanical circulatory support have to be described in a complementary way by the professional teams and their patients. Therefore, these perspectives are presented alongside to provide a comprehensive overview of the care process in its entire scope. In particular, the evidence-based medicine perspectives of not only expert cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, nurses, coordinators, social workers, psychologists, and physical therapists, but also (and equally important) patients and their relatives, are portrayed.