

Proceedings of the International PDA Symposium

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In this special edition of Congenital Heart Disease, the Proceedings of the Inaugural International PDA Symposium held on May 18-19, 2018 in Memphis, Tennessee are covered in detail. In the recent years, we have witnessed many new treatment strategies for patent ductus arteriosus (PDA) closure, particularly in neonates. Despite these advances, controversies still remain with regards to the optimal management and timing of treatment. Similar advances have been made with regards to PDA stent placement in infants with ductal dependent pulmonary blood flow.

The goal of the conference was to bring together experts within the field to share experiences with regards to the latest developments in our understanding of the pathophysiology, morphology and treatment of the PDA. Speakers and attendees were able to share data and experiences on a wide range of topics. All aspects of

the PDA were covered from basic science research to clinical care. Controversies such as the ideal management of neonatal PDAs, eg, conservative, medical, surgical and transcatheter treatment were presented. Pros and cons of catheter and surgical therapies for infants with ductal dependent pulmonary blood flow were also discussed. The conference offered numerous interactive sessions including hands-on training, a live case experience and case discussions, with involvement of physicians, trainees, nurses and allied specialties.

Special editions like this are unique in that they disseminate the current state of our understanding, including controversies, all in one forum. It is our hope that this special edition will further our current knowledge of the role of the PDA and treatment options, and at the same time provide a platform for future directions of research.