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Providing a detailed overview on techniques and their potential applications

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Platelets play a critical role in the pathophysiology of acute coronary syndromes (ACS) and thromboembolic complications associated with atrial fibrillation. Anticoagulant and antiplatelet therapies are central to the treatment of ACS and atrial fibrillation. Over the last several decades, a better understanding of the pathogenesis of coronary heart disease and atrial fibrillation has led to refinements in antithrombotic strategies and clinical outcomes. With this in mind, some of the issues outlined in this book are new insights in genetic testing and modification of individualized antiplatelet therapy based on rapid bedside platelet analyzers. Most importantly, the current update of pros and cons of novel antiplatelet agents such as prasugrel and ticagrelor are provided in detail. Conventional antiplatelet strategies with aspirin and clopidogrel are also discussed. Special attention is devoted to experimental antiplatelet agents like PAR-1 thrombin receptor antagonists or aptamers.

The ability to focus on different diseases beyond ACS, including heart failure and atrial fibrillation, distinguishes this publication. Each chapter was written by top experts in the field and scientists with the utmost authority and expertise to provide cardiologists, internists, and clinical pharmacologists with the latest updates.

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