

PROCEEDINGS

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MINIMALLY INVASIVE CARDIAC SURGERY SYMPOSIUM:

**OUTCOMES, INNOVATIONS AND FUTURE
DIRECTIONS**

Wyndham Casa Marina Resort and Beach Hotel
Key West, Florida

Sunday, May 28, 2000

www.beatingheartsurgery.com

MICS II Introduction

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The second annual minimally invasive cardiac surgery (MICS II) symposium was held on Sunday, May 28, 2000, at the Casa Marina Resort hotel in Key West Florida, immediately following the conclusion of the Outcomes 2000 program. Primarily focusing on beating heart surgery, the MICS II program was an outstanding success this year, featuring leading investigators and clinicians from throughout North America. Selected lectures and the scientific abstracts from the program are highlighted in these Proceedings.

A featured speaker, the incoming President of the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery, Mike Mack from Medical City, Dallas, gave a superb overview of the latest developments in beating heart surgery highlighting innovative techniques and new technologies in development. Lectures on robotic techniques for both minimally invasive valve and coronary surgery were given by two innovative leaders in this area, Doug Boyd from the University of Western Ontario, and Randy Chitwood from Eastern Carolina School of Medicine. Bill Cohn from Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Rob Matheny from the Atlanta CV Research Institute, presented lucid and practical discussions on the management of the high-risk patient, focusing on innovative and practical techniques for multi-vessel revascularization. This was followed by a lively panel discussion that included Mercedes Dullum from Washington Hospital Center, answering audience questions and considering the topic "Getting In and Out of Trouble: Pitfalls in Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery". Jacob Bergsland from the Center for Less Invasive Cardiac Surgery in Buffalo gave a well-received lecture on surgical techniques and intraoperative graft flow assessment, based on the extensive experience of the Buffalo group. The important issue of neurological outcomes after cardiac surgery was considered by John Murkin from the University of Western Ontario, who compared and contrasted neurological outcomes after beating heart versus conventional

coronary bypass using cardiopulmonary support, while Dimitri Novitzky from University of South Florida discussed practical aspects of CNS monitoring in high-risk patients, based on their experience with several hundred patients.

A highlight of the meeting this year was the scientific abstract and poster/discussion sessions, as included in these Proceedings. Of potentially significant clinical impact, there were reports that retention of the aortic fat pad decreased rates of postoperative atrial fibrillation, that improved neurological outcomes and lower overall morbidity was seen in both octogenarians and also in diabetic patients undergoing beating heart versus conventional coronary bypass surgery, and that use of epidural anesthesia was associated with a lower rate of postoperative cognitive dysfunction. Various innovative surgical approaches including minimally invasive closure of atrial septal defect combined with coronary revascularization, transmyocardial revascularization combined with minimally invasive coronary revascularization, minimally invasive approaches for redo coronary surgery, minimally invasive versus conventional aortic valve replacement, as well as different approaches to revascularization of the circumflex system, were also reported. Studies using computer modeling to explore anatomical approaches to the proximal anastomosis and to facilitate port-placement using a virtual 3-D model were presented as well.

Overall, the meeting was highly successful and continues to grow. This is thanks in no small part to the outstanding lecturers as noted above, to the high level of audience participation which provided the interactive format we were striving for, to our superb and hard-working meeting staff, and lastly to our sponsors whose support we gratefully acknowledge below. We invite you to enjoy these Proceedings, to visit our website (www.beatingheartsurgery.com), and especially, to join us next year at the Casa Marina in Key West, Florida on May 26–27, 2001, for MICS III.

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