BRAZILIAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY
DEPARTAMENT OF ATHEROSCLEROSIS

Information on the meeting of the Department of Atherosclerosis of the Brazilian Society of Cardiology. Belo Horizonte-MG, Brazil. September 26th, 2010

The Department of Atherosclerosis of the Brazilian Society of Cardiology organised a meeting held in Belo Horizonte-MG, Brazil, on September 26th, 2010, during the annual Brazilian Congress of Cardiology.

The subject chosen for this meeting was "Evaluation of cardiovascular risk in 2010", and short lectures were presented by the most important national leader opinions in the field of Atherosclerosis, for an interested and crowded auditorium. Below is the program and speakers:

Introduction - Cardiovascular risk: the importance of stratifying

Andréia Assis Loures Vale (MG)

Part 1 – The tools to stratify

Framingham still reigns alone

Emilio Hideyuki Moriguchi (RS)

I prefer Reynolds and justify

Francisco Antonio Helfenstein Fonseca (SP)

It is time to simplify: the lifetime risk

Hermes Toros Xavier (SP)

Part 2 – Biomarkers and image in the stratification process

Biomarkers: which, when, and for whom?

Antonio Casella-Filho (SP)

Carotid IMT: why and for whom?

Jose Rocha Faria Neto (PR)

Coronary calcium score: when and for whom?

Raul Dias dos Santos Filho (SP)

Part 3 – Who is who in the stratification?

A critical analysis of risk prediction models

Andrei Carvalho Sposito (DF)

Are biomarkers truly worthy to the stratification?

Marcelo Chiara Bertolami (SP)

Risk factors, carotid IMT, or CAC: who is more dangerous?

Otavio Rizzi Coelho (SP)

Final remarks

Andréia Assis Loures Vale (MG)

In summary, the speakers acknowledged the various limitations of old and new risk scores to predict cardiovascular events. Moreover, the available risk scores were not validated and calibrated in the Brazilian population. Pros and cons of new biomarkers and risk scores were critically discussed. The validity and cost-effectiveness of searching subclinical atherosclerosis also deserved attention. Recent data from the literature, including the Heinz Nixdorf Recall study, published just few days before the meeting, were presented by Dr. Raul Dias Santos, president of the Department of Atherosclerosis. Original, non-published data from the ongoing prospective cohort Brasilia Heart Study were shown by Dr. Andrei Sposito, in an important contribution to understand how different risk scores and biomarkers apply in the Brazilian population.

The meeting was a great opportunity for the audience to update information on a field that has been rapidly evolving and become increasingly important for clinical practitioners.