Preface

Cardiology in Exotic Pets: Challenges and Evolution

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Editor

About 13 years have passed since the last issue on “Cardiology in Exotic Animals” was published in Veterinary Clinics of North America: Exotic Animal Practice, and I had the opportunity and pleasure to join the team of authors and contribute to this emerging scientific field. Since then, a lot has happened in the world of exotic veterinary medicine, with new studies, new experiences, and of course, a huge step forward in the development of technical possibilities. I therefore feel honored to have the opportunity to introduce this new “Cardiology” issue of Veterinary Clinics of North America: Exotic Animal Practice, dedicated to those patients that are termed “exotic” but are seen more and more regularly in many veterinary practices.

Cardiology has undergone constant evolution, not revolution, over the past years, and knowledge in this field has increased step by step, starting from a deeper understanding of the underlying anatomy and physiology, the establishment of modern diagnostic methods as well as the standardization of traditional methods, and finally progress in the therapy of cardiac diseases. Nevertheless, in many aspects, cardiology in our exotic pets is still in its infancy, but it is growing rapidly, giving us new options for the understanding of these disease processes, and of course, for helping our patients.

This issue is intended to give an up-to-date overview on the current knowledge of the anatomy, physiology, diagnostics, and most commonly known cardiac diseases in very different animal groups and to summarize the state-of-the-art therapeutic options available for them. I wish to thank the authors who contributed to this issue and shared their experience and knowledge in the respective fields they are specializing in. I also want to thank Elsevier and Joerg Mayer for the invitation to serve as guest editor, and the Elsevier team, especially Stacy Eastman, Axell Ivan, Jade M. Purificacion, and Rajkumar Mayakrishnan, for their continuous help and assistance in the preparation of this issue.
I hope that you enjoy reading these articles, that you find interesting new options and ideas, and that the content of this issue might help you to diagnose and treat cardiovascular disorders in exotics pets.

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