

New ESC position paper chaired by a Turkish Cardiologist, Prof. Bülent Görenek

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The first multidisciplinary recommendations on the management of arrhythmias in patients with acute coronary syndromes (ACS) were published in EP Europace, Eurointervention and in EHJ-ACC simultaneously during ESC Congress in Barcelona. The European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA), the Acute Cardiovascular Care Association (ACCA) and the European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions (EAPCI) wrote it jointly.

Professor Bülent Görenek, the chairperson of the task force, said: "This topic has received limited coverage in guidelines and at congresses, and clinicians have many unanswered questions."

He added "Therapy for acute coronary syndrome and arrhythmia management are now based increasingly on invasive approaches. The changes in the clinical approach to arrhythmia management in ACS have been so substantial that the European Heart Rhythm Association, the Acute Cardiovascular Care Association and the European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions established a task force to define the current position."

Professor Görenek said "This document summarizes the current position, contemporary approaches, and offers recommendations on how to identify ACS patients at risk for arrhythmias; manage tachyarrhythmias and bradyarrhythmias using

pharmacological and non-pharmacological, device and catheter-based approaches including electrical cardioversion, implantation of temporary pacemakers, programming of ICD, catheter ablation; and implement clinical and referral strategies. These recommendations are provided for acute care and management of ventricular arrhythmias, atrial fibrillation, bradyarrhythmias, and prevention of stroke and embolism in patients with ACS, and arrhythmias developing during coronary interventions, in patients with implanted devices and cardiogenic shock. Management of intractable arrhythmias requires multidisciplinary approach including specialists in acute cardiac care, interventional cardiology, and cardiac arrhythmias"

