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## The 38th Portuguese Congress of Cardiology: Looking at the Heart

As in previous years, the 2017 Portuguese Congress of Cardiology will be held in the Algarve Congress Centre, with the theme of “Looking at the Heart: Innovation, Knowledge and Art”.

The Congress will be, as always, a golden opportunity for health professionals working in this important field of medicine to keep up to date with developments, as well as offering an excellent forum to discuss the issues that concern them. Our Congress, one of the largest and most prestigious scientific gatherings in Portugal, brings together all those interested in the area of cardiovascular medicine.

Once again we are taking a multidisciplinary approach, based on an excellent scientific programme and with an ever larger number of participants, ensuring that the Congress will be a notable scientific event opening the way for new projects in both clinical practice and research by cardiologists and other specialists, strengthening knowledge and fostering innovation in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular conditions.

Besides the excellence of its scientific programme, the 2017 Congress also includes a number of innovative initiatives that will certainly spark lively debate on the various issues that are of concern to all specialists, in both clinical practice and research.

The interest generated by this major platform for discussion of a wide variety of important topics is demonstrated by the increasing number of Portuguese and foreign participants and the growing number of studies, case reports and images submitted for presentation at the Congress. This year we have received over 730 abstracts for assessment that have been reviewed by national experts from different specialties within cardiology and with input from working groups, sections and associations.

A total of 580 works (78% of those submitted) will be presented at this year’s Congress, in the form of Oral Communications, Moderated Posters, Electronic Posters, Imaging Sessions and Case Reports. Of the total, 92 will be in the form of Oral Communications, in sixteen subject areas; 212 will be presented in Moderated Poster sessions;

245 will be presented as Electronic Posters, using innovative technology; and there will also be wide-ranging discussion of case reports, imaging studies and cases of iatrogeny. Televiewing will be in operation during the sessions.

Prizes will, as always, be awarded to the best studies and case reports. There will be a special session dedicated to the Machado Macedo Prize for Best Young Researcher (basic and clinical research) and a prize for the best communication at the 2017 Congress, selected by a jury who will attend all presentations throughout the four days of the event. The Best Case Report and Best Image will also receive prizes. All prize-winners will be announced at the closing ceremony.

This special edition of the Portuguese Journal of Cardiology includes the abstracts of the works presented at the 2017 Congress, which will also be made available to participants in electronic form.

On behalf of the Scientific and Organising Committee of the 2017 Congress, I would like to congratulate the hundreds of authors on the excellent works submitted, which are an indication of the high standards attained in the cardiology community.

I am grateful for the generosity and efforts of all the experts who took such care in assessing the abstracts submitted, as well as of the members of the prize-awarding juries.

This important event is the result of the ongoing dedication of a team made up of many parts, and I would like to offer heartfelt thanks to all members of the Scientific and Organising Committee, the hard-working members of the Congress Department of the Portuguese Society of Cardiology, the Society’s Board of Directors, and all others who, in one way or another, have helped to make this meeting a reality.

Here’s Looking at the Heart: innovation, knowledge and art.

Mário Oliveira  
Committee Chair of the 2017 Portuguese  
Congress of Cardiology