

PRESS RELEASE FROM NATURE PUBLISHING GROUP
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For immediate release

Contact: Grace Baynes
Corporate PR Planner, Nature Publishing Group
T: +44 (0)20 7014 4063
g.baynes@nature.com

The Macmillan Building
4 Crinan Street
London N1 9XW
UK
T: +44 (0)20 7833 4000
F: +44 (0)20 7843 4640
www.nature.com

***Nature Clinical Practice Cardiovascular Medicine* publishes Clinical Research**

Nature Clinical Practice Cardiovascular Medicine publishes the inaugural articles in its Clinical Research section today.

A cross-sectional screening study by Jonathan Carapetis and colleagues establishes the efficacy of a screening protocol for rheumatic heart disease using portable echocardiography equipment.

Elsewhere in the Clinical Research section, Claudio Napoli and colleagues from II University of Naples in Italy investigate the vascular 'niche'. Their results in mice suggest that modulating this niche could be a strategy for treating peripheral ischemia. Abel Romero-Corral and colleagues from the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, US, show that high leptin levels are significantly associated with raised cardiovascular risk.

"I am impressed with the high quality of the first three Clinical Research articles we have published in *Nature Clinical Practice Cardiovascular Medicine*," comments Editor-in-Chief Dr Valentin Fuster. "There was strong demand from the clinical cardiology community for this section and I am confident that *Nature Clinical Practice Cardiovascular Medicine* will become a place to publish exceptional cardiovascular research. I look forward to receiving many more submissions of this calibre."

Launched in 2004, *Nature Clinical Practice Cardiovascular Medicine* is a peer-reviewed journal that translates the latest key research developments into clinical practice for cardiologists. Sections include editorial and opinion pieces, highlights from the current literature, commentaries on the application of recent research to practical patient care, comprehensive reviews, and in-depth case studies. The journal is supported by an international Editorial Board, and with a 2006 Impact Factor of 2.72 ranks in the top 30% of Cardiac and Cardiovascular Systems journals, according to the 2006 Journal Citation Report.

Nature Clinical Practice Publisher Dr James Butcher comments, "I'm delighted that *Nature Clinical Practice Cardiovascular Medicine* is now publishing original research papers alongside review and opinion articles. This development will benefit both authors and readers and will help to make the journal one of the very best in its field."

Nature Clinical Practice Cardiovascular Medicine encourages submissions from any area of cardiology including randomized controlled trials, systematic reviews/meta-analyses, and observational, epidemiological and translational studies. More information is available at www.nature.com/ncpcardio/originalresearch.

An official publication of the World Heart Federation, *Nature Clinical Practice Cardiovascular Medicine* is part of the Nature Clinical Practice series of journals published by Nature Publishing Group.

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Contact:

Hannah Camm, Editor, *Nature Clinical Practice Cardiovascular Medicine*

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7843 4881

E-mail: ncpcardio@nature.com

Articles featured:

Evaluation of a screening protocol using auscultation and portable echocardiography to detect asymptomatic rheumatic heart disease in Tongan schoolchildren

Jonathan R Carapetis*, Myra Hardy, Toakase Fakakovikaetau, Rohayati Taib, Lyn Wilkinson, Daniel J Penny and Andrew C Steer

Nature Clinical Practice Cardiovascular Medicine

Published online: 8 April 2008 | doi:10.1038/ncpcardio1185

<http://www.nature.com/ncpcardio/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/ncpcardio1185.html>

Therapeutic targeting of the stem cell niche in experimental hindlimb ischemia

Claudio Napoli*, Sharon William-Ignarro, Russell Byrns, Maria Luisa Balestrieri, Ettore Crimi, Bartolomeo Farzati, Francesco P Mancini, Filomena de Nigris, Angelo Matarazzo, Maurizio D'Amora, Ciro Abbondanza, Carmela Fiorito, Alfonso Giovane, Anna Florio, Ettore Varricchio, Antonio Palagiano, Pellegrino Biagio Minucci, Mario Felice Tecce, Antonio Giordano, Antonio Pavan and Louis J Ignarro

Nature Clinical Practice Cardiovascular Medicine

Published online: 15 April 2008 | doi:10.1038/ncpcardio1214

<http://www.nature.com/ncpcardio/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/ncpcardio1214.html>

Relationships between leptin and C-reactive protein with cardiovascular disease in the adult general population

Abel Romero-Corral, Justo Sierra-Johnson, Francisco Lopez-Jimenez, Randal J Thomas, Prachi Singh, Michal Hoffmann, Aynur Okcay, Josef Korinek, Robert Wolk and Virend K Somers

Nature Clinical Practice Cardiovascular Medicine

Published online: 22 April 2008 | doi: 10.1038/ncpcardio1218

<http://www.nature.com/ncpcardio/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/ncpcardio1218.html>