

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS



האיגוד הקרדיולוגי בישראל
ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY



OF THE ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY



Hanukkah Menorah in Sderot, Israel made from Gaza launched kassam rockets

Editor's Note: Welcome to the Winter 2010 FIHS Newsletter. We are adding an exciting new feature this issue- FIHS Heart Beats. The goal of this section is to inform our readership of the major accomplishments and achievements of our members. We are looking for book publications, awards, and anything else that is fit to print. This section will evolve over time based on comments from you, the reader.

In this issue we will share a multi-center report from the Israel Echocardiography Research Group. All of our usual feature sections will be covered, including a message from our President and upcoming meetings. Finally, we will have

some information on the upcoming FIHS/IHS banquet at ACC meeting in New Orleans in April. We will hopefully return to highlighting an Israeli Cardiology program in our next issue.

Remember, this Newsletter and Society belong to you, the membership. We look forward to enhancing this Society and the connections that we hope to foster between Israeli and non-Israeli cardiologists and their institutions. Please feel free to email us with questions, answers, comments, criticisms, or just to tell us to keep working harder!

Our immediate goal is to try to grow our membership and participation to include any and all cardiologists and fellows that would be interested in supporting this bridging relationship. If you know of any cardiologists or cardiology fellows who we can contact, please email me (my address is jackstroh@usa.net). May we continue to grow in size as well as in deeds in the future!

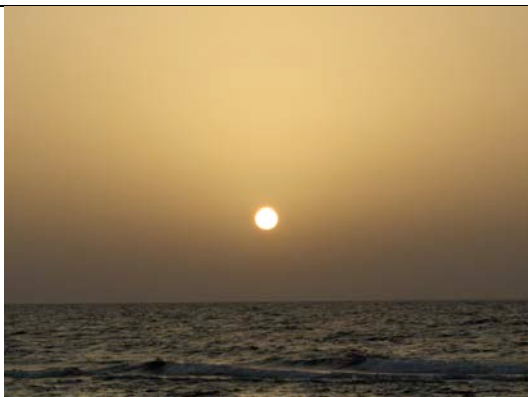
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Message from the President

Thank you to all our Friends for your support for the Friends of the Israel Heart Society in 2010. I want to thank all who have contributed to our efforts and growth this year. We look to further growth and development next year. I want to make you aware of several items:

1) **FIHS reception at ACC** - as we have done in the past, we will be having a reception at ACC on Sunday, April 3, 2011 beginning at 6:30 PM. We look forward to seeing you there!

2) I would like to thank Jack Stroh for his continued efforts at maintaining the high quality and informativeness of the FIHS newsletter. Please make sure to check out the newest section – **FIHS Heart Beats!** If you have personal and/or academic milestones you would like to share with the FIHS membership, please submit these to

Jack at jackstroh@usa.net. This is a wonderful opportunity for our members to share news.

4) As 2011 rolls in, we still need your support to further increase our membership – please consider recruiting some colleagues and friends who are inclined to be members but are not aware of the FIHS – please feel free to distribute this newsletter. Annual membership can be paid through the FIHS website at: <http://www.friendsihs.org/index.html>

5) If you have not yet the opportunity to attend a cardiology meeting in Israel, consider putting it on your agenda for 2011 or 2012. The meetings are topical and of very high quality and provide a fantastic opportunity to mix business and pleasure.

6) Finally, many thanks to our Silver, Gold, and Platinum members for 2010 - we could not have succeeded without your support.

Thank you for your continued support!

With best wishes for a great 2011,

Jeff Goldberger

President, Friends of the Israel Heart Society

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The Friends of the Israel Heart Society (FIHS) and the Israel Heart Society (IHS) take great pleasure in inviting you to the Friends of the Israel Heart Society Reception at ACC

Location: Hilton New Orleans Riverside

2 Poydras Street, New Orleans

Location: Rosedown, third floor

Date: Sunday, April 3, 2011

Time: 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM

It will be a great pleasure to meet and host you at our event. Please reply using the form below.

We also remind you to make your annual contribution, which can include the annual \$50 dues, through the FIHS website at: <http://www.friendsihs.org/index.html>

Alternatively, mail a check made out to the Friends of the Israel Heart Society to FIHS, c/o Debbie Burg, 8626 Central Park, Skokie, IL 60076

All contributions will be greatly appreciated and are tax-deductible.

I will be pleased to participate in the event

I regret that I cannot participate

First & Last Name: _____

Please return your confirmation to the

FIHS Secretariat at: debbie@virtual9to5.com

Upcoming Meetings in Israel

58th Annual Congress of the Israel Heart Society in Association with the Israel Society of Cardiothoracic Surgery

May 4-5, 2011

David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv

Invited Speakers:

William T. Abraham, MD, FACC Ohio State University Medical Center, USA

Richard C. Becker, MD Duke University School of Medicine Duke Clinical Research Institute, USA

Ralph Brindis, MD, MPH, FACC President of the American College of Cardiology (ACC) Oakland Medical Center, USA

Stuart J. Connolly, MD, FRCPC McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Keith A. Fox, MD, FRCP, FESC Centre for Cardiovascular Science, University of Edinburgh, Scotland

Christian W. Hamm, MD, FESC Kerckhoff Heart Center, Bad Nauheim, Germany

Gérard Helft, MD, PhD Hôpital Pitié-Salpêtrière, Paris

Alain Cohen-Solal, MD, PhD, FESC Hôpital Lariboisière, Paris

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Barry J. Maron, MD, FACC Minneapolis Heart
Institute Foundation USA

Jean-Francois I. Obadia, M.D., PhD Hopital
Cardiothoracique Louis Pradel, France

Harvey White, FACC, FESC, FAHA Auckland
City Hospital, New Zealand

<http://www.israelheart.com/eng/>

7th International Meeting Intensive Cardiac Care

October 30-November 1, 2011

Co-Chairmen

Joseph S. Alpert, USA

Alexander Battler, Israel

Yonathan Hasin, Israel

Zaza Iakobishvili, Israel, *Secretary*

Doron Zahger, Israel, *Scientific
Secretary*

Ofra Raanan, Israel, *Nursing
Coordinator*

<http://www.isas.co.il/cardiac-care2011/>

Membership

This is also a reminder regarding membership dues for the Friends of the Israel Heart Society. The basic dues are **\$50**. You can register through our website <http://friendsihs.org/Register.html> or send a check directly to:

Friends of the Israel Heart Society
c/o Debbie Burg
8626 Central Park
Skokie, IL 60076

Please include your email address to assure you do not miss an issue!

We are particularly grateful to those who can be sponsors at any one of the levels indicated below:

\$250 Silver member

\$500 Gold member

\$1,000 Platinum member

\$5,000 President's club

Your support enables us to continue growing our programs, including the ACC meeting, support for Israeli fellows to attend the AHA/ACC meetings, and to grow other programs.

For those who are interested in directed donations, we have the following opportunities:

\$500 Sponsor an issue of the FIHS newsletter

\$1000 Partial sponsorship of an Israeli fellow to attend the AHA meeting

\$1000 Partial sponsorship of an Israeli fellow to attend the ACC meeting

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\$2500 Sponsorship of an Israeli fellow to attend the AHA meeting

\$2500 Sponsorship of an Israeli fellow to attend the ACC meeting.



We would like to thank our Platinum, Gold, and Silver Members for their past and future support!

Platinum Members

Dr. Jeffrey S. Borer
Dr. Eugene Braunwald
Dr. Michael J. Wolk
Dr. Douglas P. Zipes

Silver Member

Dr. Joseph Alpert
Dr. Charles Antzelevitch
Dr. Robert Bonow
Dr. Nancy Flowers
Dr. Jose Jalife
Dr. Morton Leibowitz
Dr. Yale Mitchel
Dr. Morton Mower
Dr. Stanley Nattel
Dr. Richard L. Popp
Dr. Alan Rabinowitz
Dr. Gregory Schwartz
Dr. Jack Stroh
Dr. Giora Weisz

**May these lists grow in
2011!**



Featured Research:

Gold Members

Dr. Peng-Sheng Chen
Dr. Camellus Ezeugwu
Dr. Peter Fitzgerald
Dr. Jeffrey Goldberger
Dr. Charles Love
Dr. Marek Malik
Dr. David Rosenbaum
Dr. Melvin Scheinman
Dr. Bruce Wilkoff

Reliability of Visual Assessment
of Global and
Segmental Left Ventricular
Function: A Multicenter
Study by the Israeli
Echocardiography Research
Group

David S. Blondheim, MD, Ronen Beeri, MD,
Micha S. Feinberg, MD, Mordehay Vaturi, MD,
Sarah Shimoni, MD, Wolfgang Fehske, MD,
Alik Sagie, MD, David Rosenmann, MD, Peter

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Lysyansky, PhD, Lisa Deutsch, PhD, Marina Leitman, MD, Rafael Kuperstein, MD, Ilan Hay, MD, Dan Gilon, MD, Zvi Friedman, PhD, Yoram Agmon, MD, Yossi Tsadok, BSc, and Noah Liel-Cohen, MD, Hadera, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Petah Tikva, Rehovot, Haifa, Zerifin, and Beer Sheva, Israel; Cologne, Germany.

From Hillel-Yaffe Medical Center, Hadera, Israel (D.S.B.); Hadassah University Hospital, Jerusalem, Israel (R.B., D.G.); Sheba Medical Center, Tel Aviv, Israel (M.S.F., R.K., I.H.); Rabin Medical Center, Petah Tikva, Israel (M.V., A.S.); Kaplan Medical Center, Rehovot, Israel (S.S.); St Vinzenz Hospital, Cologne, Germany (W.F.); Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Jerusalem, Israel (D.R.); GE Healthcare, Haifa, Israel (P.L., L.D., Z.F.); Assaf Harofeh Medical Center, Zerifin, Israel (M.L.); Rambam Medical Center, Haifa, Israel (Y.A.); Ben-Gurion University, Beer Sheva, Israel (Y.T.); and Soroka University Medical Center, Beer Sheva, Israel (N.L.-C.).

Reprint requests: David S. Blondheim, MD, Hillel Yaffe Medical Center, Hadera, Israel (E-mail: dsblond@gmail.com).

Background: The purpose of this multicenter study was to determine the reliability of visual assessments of segmental wall motion (WM) abnormalities and global left ventricular function among highly experienced echocardiographers using contemporary echocardiographic technology in patients with a variety of cardiac conditions.

Methods: The reliability of visual determinations of left ventricular WM and global function was calculated from assessments made by 12 experienced echocardiographers on 105 echocardiograms recorded using contemporary echocardiographic equipment. Ten studies were reread independently to determine intraobserver reliability.

Results: Interobserver reliability for visual differentiation between normal, hypokinetic, and akinetic segments had an intraclass correlation coefficient of 0.70. The intraclass correlation coefficient for dichotomizing segments into normal versus other abnormal was 0.63, for hypokinetic versus other scores was 0.26, and for akinetic versus other scores was 0.58. Similar results were found for intraobserver reliability. Interobserver reliability for WM score index was 0.84 and for left ventricular ejection fraction was 0.78. Similar values were obtained for the intraobserver reliability of WM score index and ejection fraction. Compared to angiographic data, the accuracy of segmental WM assessments was 85%, and correct determination of the culprit artery was achieved in 59% of patients with myocardial infarctions.

Conclusion: Among experienced readers using contemporary echocardiographic equipment, interobserver and intraobserver reliability was reasonable for the visual quantification of normal and akinetic segments but poor for hypokinetic segments. Reliability was good for the visual assessment of global left ventricular function by WM score index and ejection fraction. (J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2010;23:258-64.)

Table 1 Interobserver and intraobserver reliability of visual assessment of WM assessed by ICCs

Variable	Interobserver ICC	Intraobserver	
		Mean ICC \pm SD	ICC range
Normal, hypokinetic, or akinetic	0.70	0.79 \pm 0.06	0.68-0.88
Normal vs other (abnormal)	0.63	0.71 \pm 0.12	0.50-0.91
Hypokinetic vs other	0.26	0.37 \pm 0.19	0.03-0.62
Akinetic vs other	0.58	0.70 \pm 0.10	0.56-0.83

Interobserver and intraobserver reliability for the determination of WM abnormalities between trichotomized ordinal segmental scores (normal = 1, hypokinetic = 2, and akinetic = 3) and dichotomized segmental scores (normal vs abnormal, hypokinetic vs other, and akinetic vs other scores). Note the low values for hypokinetic segments.

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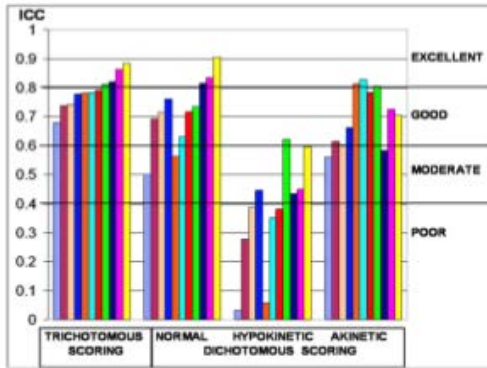


Figure 1 ICCs for intraobserver reliability for trichotomous ordinal scoring (normal, hypokinetic, and akinetic segments) and for dichotomous scoring (each score classification vs the other scores) for each reader. Ranges of the ICCs considered poor, moderate, good, and excellent are specified. Colors represent results of individual readers. Note worst results (ie, lowest reliability) for hypokinetic segments.

Table 2 Diagnostic accuracy of the visual assessment method for the determination of WM quality versus the mean scores determined for each segment by the bootstrap iterative procedure of 12 experienced readers

Variable	Normal		Hypokinetic		Akinetic	
	Average	95% CI	Average	95% CI	Average	95% CI
Sensitivity	90	87-93	90	88-92	95	93-97
Specificity	85	80-90	49	44-54	74	64-83
PPV	95	92-97	93	91-95	96	93-98
NPV	75	68-82	38	31-46	73	62-83
Accuracy	89	87-90	85	84-86	92	91-93

CI, Confidence interval; NPV, negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive value.

accomplishments. As are all sections in this newsletter, it will evolve through recommendations of our readership.

🍏 Thanks to the strong work of Dr. Michael Wolk, the ACC- Emerging Faculty Program will include at least one student from Israel next year.

🍏 Congratulations to our President, Jeffrey Goldberger on co-editing the following book:

J.J. Goldberger, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA; J. Ng, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA (Eds.)

Practical Signal and Image Processing in Clinical Cardiology

Modern signal and image acquisition systems used in the field of cardiology acquire, analyze, and store data digitally. Surface electrocardiography, intra-cardiac electro-gram recording, echocardiograms, x-ray, magnetic resonance imaging, and computed tomography are among the modalities in the cardiology field where signal processing is applied. Digital signal processing techniques allow us to automate many of the analyses that had previously been done manually with greater precision, accuracy and speed, as well as detect features and patterns in data that may be too subtle to observe by eye. As more cardiologists are becoming more reliant on such technology, a basic understanding of digital signals and the techniques used to extract information from these signals are required. ...



FIHS Heart Beats



Welcome to this new feature for the FIHS quarterly newsletter. The goal of this section is to foster communication between and among our American/non-Israeli and Israeli readership by informing all of “family” achievements and

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more on <http://springer.com/978-1-84882-514-7>.

► Presents a comprehensive textbook. Explains biomedical signal processing to cardiologists. Written by experts with a unique combination of clinical cardiology and engineering experience.

🍏 Congratulations to former President of FIHS Doug Zipes MD for his latest novel- **“THE BLACK WIDOWS.”** Here is a review:

Doctor turned author is worth a read

Mickey Maurer March 20, 2010

Like Little Miss Muffet, you were probably frightened of spiders as a child. Most of us have gotten over it. Well, it's time to be afraid once more.

Dr. Douglas P. Zipes, retired director of the Krannert Institute of Cardiology at Indiana University School of Medicine, has devoted his last couple of years to scaring us half to death with his new novel, **“The Black Widows.”** Zipes is no stranger to academics or to writing. He has degrees from a number of institutions, including Dartmouth College, Harvard Medical School and Duke University. His curriculum vitae runs to more than 100 pages of positions, honors and publications. Although retired, he continues to edit Heart Rhythm, the Heart Rhythm Society's official journal.

“The Black Widows” is Zipes' second novel. His first, the thriller “Whispering Heart,” was reviewed in this column in 2002. In “The Black Widows,” Zipes again draws liberally on his vast knowledge of medicine, particularly cardiology. He weaves his medical murder mystery around a base of solid science, and he keeps the pages turning while managing to stay just inside the realm of plausibility. It's a good

yarn.

There is a slasher on the loose with a peculiar M.O. Why? You'll enjoy sorting out the clues with Zach, a flawed but genial NYPD detective with international connections, who must solve the mystery and save the western world. Beware the clever misdirects. Speaking of which, the book is not really about spiders that crawl around in dark corners and sting hapless humans who stumble upon their course. “The Black Widows” is a terrorist conspiracy led by two elderly women who have sufficient cause to exact a little revenge, but they have higher aspirations. They wish to cast their deadly web over much of humanity—and what a clever and diabolical scheme!

The characters are fully drawn. You will enjoy the description of an autopsy performed by the pompous and barely competent medical examiner, Dr. John Hunter—it's to die for.

Hunter stuffed all the organs except the heart and brain into a plastic bag and placed the bag in the abdominal cavity. “Always reminds me of my ex-wife's first turkey dinner. She cooked it with the organ bag still in the bird.”

There are no “usual suspects.” For example, Zipes has come up with the vamp Frankie, a comely Princeton graduate with a troubled past and uncertain future. She is a suspect who performs her own investigation with an officer assigned to the case:

“She stood on her toes, her five-foot, seven inches reaching his chin, put her arms around his neck, and planted a gentle kiss on his lips. Then she took his hands, let them

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slide down her chest, and said, ‘Help me open the bed. You shouldn’t drive home after all that wine. We don’t want New York’s finest to get a DUI, now do we?’”

Zipes is well-traveled and aptly sets the novel on the international stage but a careful reader will note that the author is a Hoosier:

“A gnome of a man entered. Eighty at least, all wrinkled and bent over, he looked as if he’d been left to bake in the sun too long. Shorty wore a gray sweatshirt that said Indianapolis Colts World Champions 2007 with a big white horseshoe and was about three sizes too big for him.”

Everyone professes ambition to write a book. There is probably at least one book in each of us, but anyone who has taken pen in hand will tell you that it is more difficult and time-consuming than you think. I salute **Zipes** for a solid effort. Summer is approaching. You can bring this one to the beach. “The Black Widows” is available through iUniverse
<http://www.iuniverse.com>.

Israel Heart Society. Special thanks as always to Mort Lebowitz MD, President of the Israel Heart Society, and Batia Ziv for being our “eyes and ears on the ground” in Israel. Special thanks in America to Debbie Burg, our entire FIHS Staff!

Tell your friends that we want them to join our mission to be a bridge between Israeli Cardiology and the world. If you have any questions, comment, criticisms (my favorites!) please email me at jackstroh@usa.net. Thank you for reading, and looking forward to hearing from you! We at FIHS wish you all a Happy Hanukah!



That’s it for this issue of the newsletter of the Friends of

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Menorah outside Maale Adumim made from hundreds of individual Yahrzeit candles- 2005.

