

## Cardio Oncology Today!

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The advance of antineoplastic therapies, new innovative and revolutionary treatments, besides more efficient diagnostic methods, and minimally invasive surgeries have provided a better survival to cancer patients. However, this powerful therapeutic arsenal can cause cardiovascular damage to patients during treatment or throughout their lives.

However, the cancer-free patient is faced with a limiting heart disease, which compromises his quality of life and worsens his prognosis. It is currently known that oncologic treatment itself is already a cardiovascular risk factor.

In this context, cardio-oncology emerges with a focus on early detection, monitoring, and treatment of cardiovascular complications that occur during or after cancer treatment.

It is important to note that individuals with cardiovascular risk factors prior to cancer treatment are eligible to be closely observed to correct plausible risks and minimize future harm from cancer treatment. Our goal here is to keep them in good clinical condition to finish their chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and other protocols, thus allowing the cancer to be cured.

Cardiovascular complications such as cardiotoxicity from tetracyclines, trastuzumab, represent an important part of this context. However, we can identify uncontrolled blood pressure, angina, myocarditis, severe arrhythmias (long QT), valvular heart disease, pericarditis, and thrombosis, which are also causes of morbidity and mortality, besides the evolution of cancer itself<sup>1</sup>. The diagnosis and management of primary cardiac tumors and cardiovascular metastases from other sites are also included in the field of cardio-oncology.

Cardio-oncology has emerged in the last two decades from these demands and national and international societies were formed, and training centers were created aiming to expand their concepts, improving professionals, seeking treatments, routines and specialized approaches that would allow the continuation of cancer treatment with less risk or cardiovascular damage.

Cardiovascular diseases and cancer are the leading causes of death in developed countries, the junction of these two specialties becomes a challenge, and a stimulus to professionals by technological advances, therapeutic and also benefit the care of cancer patients.

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