It had long been known that inflammatory-immunologic processes play a role in the development of cardiovascular diseases in general and atherosclerosis in particular. However, during the last two decades this notion has gained increasing momentum, both in basic research and clinical medicine. The latter is also reflected by progress in diagnostic and therapeutic approaches. The present volume strives to provide an up-to-date information on this topic with contributions from experts in the field taking into account the progress made in the last few years. We hope that this timely and comprehensive volume will find the interest of basic scientists and clinicians working in this field but also of readers who are planning to enter this interesting area of research and clinical practice.

Due to limits of space not all examples of inflammatory-immunologically mediated diseases of the cardiovascular system could be covered in this volume. So, we have, e.g. refrained from including diseases that develop on a clear-cut primary infectious basis, such as viral myocarditis.

We would like to thank all authors for their contributions, their readiness to address questions still open, to comply with formal requirements, and also for meeting the deadline for submission of their chapters. We would also like to thank the Viennese staff of the Springer Publishing House for their initiative in planning and their help in publishing this volume and Mrs. Christine Süß in our office here in Innsbruck for her admirable administrative help.

Innsbruck

Georg Wick, MD
Cecilia Grundtman, Ph.D
Inflammation and Atherosclerosis
Wick, G.; Grundtman, C. (Eds.)
2012, X, 634 p., Hardcover
ISBN: 978-3-7091-0337-1