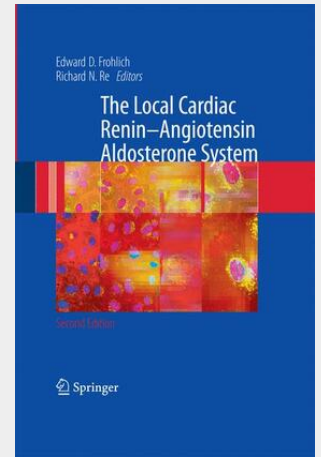


## The Local Cardiac Renin-Angiotensin Aldosterone System

Until recently, the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system has been considered a systemic endocrine hormonal system exclusively. It is now known that each component of the renin-angiotensin system is produced, synthesized and indeed, present in many organisms including the heart and vessels. This volume presents the most recent clinical and laboratory experiences of the leading physicians and investigators in the field of the local cardiac renin-angiotensin aldosterone system. Cardiovascular, renal and hypertension oriented physicians, investigators and scientists would find this book of interest. Edward D. Frohlich, M.D., M.A.C.P., F.A.C.C., is the Alton Ochsner Distinguished Scientist at the Ochsner Clinic Foundation in New Orleans, Louisiana. He is also Professor of Medicine and of Physiology at Louisiana State University School of Medicine, New Orleans, and Clinical Professor of Medicine and Adjunct Professor of Pharmacology at Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans. He is past Editor-in-Chief of the American Heart Association journal HYPERTENSION. Richard N. Re, M.D., is the Section Head, Hypertension at the Ochsner Clinic Foundation in New Orleans, Louisiana. He is also Ochsner's Scientific Director of Research.

With great pleasure we present our Third International Workshop on The Local Cardiac Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone System (RAAS), held at the Ochsner Clinic Foundation in November 2008. When this meeting was first organized in 2002, we were pleased that all who were invited to participate in our first workshop attended our program; and what is most satisfying, all of these participants returned for the second and this, the third workshop. In addition, we are delighted that a number of additional workers in this growing field of investigation joined us for this third program. Over the years since our first workshop, there is little doubt as to the existence of a local RAAS in the heart. Indeed, there is substantial evidence as to the existence of other local systems in brain, vessels, adrenal, and, as presented in the current workshop, the kidneys. What is even more stimulating intellectually, through duplication of local RAAS systems a remarkable yin-yang biological balance is provided by nature. Thus, in the current third workshop considerable evidence has accumulated over the years for complicated local systems that serve to provide exquisite and unique local control of local organ functions.



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