The first Latin American Catheter Ablation Registry

Roberto Keegan1*, Luis Aguinaga2, Guilherme Fenelon3, William Uribe4, Gerardo Rodriguez Diez5, Mauricio Scanavacca6, Manuel Patete7, Ricardo Zegarra Carhuaz8, Carlos Labadet9, Claudio De Zuloaga10, Domingo Pozzer11, and Fernando Sczzu12 on behalf of the SOLAECE registry investigators†

1Servicio de Electrofisiología, Hospital Privado del Sur, 164th Las Heras St, 8000, Bahía Blanca, Argentina; 2Centro Privado de Cardiología, Tucumán, Argentina; 3Paulista School of Medicine, Sao Paulo, Brazil; 4Servicio de Electrofisiología, CES Cardiología y Clínica Las Américas, Medellin, Colombia; 5Centro Médico Nacional 20 De Noviembre, ISSSTE, México; 6Instituto de Coração do FMUSP, Sao Paulo, Brazil; 7Unidad Especializada de Arritmias, Caracas, Venezuela; 8Instituto Nacional Cardiovascular INCOR EsSalud, Lima, Peru; 9CEMIC, Buenos Aires, Argentina; 10Hospital Nacional Alejandro Posadas, Buenos Aires, Argentina; 11Instituto de Cardiología de Corrientes, Corrientes, Argentina; and 12Instituto Cardiovascular de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

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Aims
To assess the results of transcatheter ablation of cardiac arrhythmias in Latin America and establish the first Latin American transcatheter ablation registry.

Methods
All ablation procedures performed between 1 January and 31 December 2012 were analysed retrospectively. Data were obtained on the characteristics and resources of participating centres (public or private institution, number of beds, cardiac surgery availability, type of room for the procedures, days per week assigned to electrophysiology procedures, type of fluoroscopy equipment, availability and type of electroanatomical mapping system, intracardiac echo, cryoablation, and number of electrophysiologists) and the results of 17 different ablation substrates: atrio-ventricular node reentrant tachycardia, typical atrial flutter, atypical atrial flutter, left free wall accessory pathway, right free wall accessory pathway, septal accessory pathway, right-sided focal atrial tachycardia, left-sided focal atrial tachycardia, paroxysmal atrial fibrillation, non-paroxysmal atrial fibrillation, atrio-ventricular node, premature ventricular complex, idiopathic ventricular tachycardia, post-myocardial infarction ventricular tachycardia, ventricular tachycardia in chronic chagasic cardiomyopathy, ventricular tachycardia in congenital heart disease, and ventricular tachycardias in other structural heart diseases. Data of 15,099 procedures were received from 120 centres in 13 participating countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, and Venezuela). Accessory pathway was the group of arrhythmias most frequently ablated (31%), followed by atrio-ventricular node reentrant tachycardia (29%), typical atrial flutter (14%), and atrial fibrillation (11%). Overall success was 92% with the rate of global complications at 4% and mortality 0.05%.

Conclusion
Catheter ablation in Latin America can be considered effective and safe.

Keywords
Arrhythmias • Catheter ablation • Latin America • Registry

Introduction
Transcatheter ablation of cardiac arrhythmias was successfully introduced into daily clinical practice over 30 years ago. Since then, surveys and multicentre registries have mainly been reported from centres across the Europe and the USA, whereas in Latin America registries are limited to a few countries. Therefore, the Latin American Society of Electrophysiology and Cardiac Stimulation (SOLAECE) decided to compile the first Catheter Ablation Registry in Latin America.