Tell us a little bit about your book, who is it aimed at, and how will it help them?

This book is a comprehensive textbook of pediatric echocardiography. It covers the latest advances in ultrasound imaging of the heart in children, and also deals with congenital heart disease in fetuses and adults.

The textbook is aimed at those who practice and teach pediatric and congenital echocardiography. It provides a comprehensive, integrated approach to pediatric cardiac ultrasound and includes information about the anatomy, pathophysiology, and goals of the echocardiographic examination for each lesion before, during, and after treatment.

What inspired you to write the book?

We, the editors, saw a great need for an updated reference textbook for our trainees and for our colleagues and their trainees. It has been over a decade since the release of the last comprehensive textbook on this topic.

What do you hope readers will get out of it?

The chapters are written by experts throughout North American and Europe. Despite the wide geographic distribution of the authors, a consistent and thorough approach to pediatric echocardiography is provided.

The readers will also have a DVD with hundreds of examples of key anatomic and functional issues mentioned in the text.

What is different about your book compared with others in the field?

Its main attraction is that it is recently released and incorporates the latest technologies. It provides a perspective from authors drawn from most of the major pediatric cardiology centers on two continents.

It is also the first comprehensive textbook to provide illustrative video clips, which greatly improve the readers’ ability to understand the information in the text and still figures.

What is your day job?

I run a non-invasive pediatric cardiology imaging laboratory at an academic medical center.

How did you get into this line of work?

I like taking care of children, and I enjoy the challenge of diagnosing and treating congenital heart disease. I have had great role models who were devoted to their patients but who also loved to teach.
What would you be if you were not a doctor?

I’d do something else that requires puzzle-solving. Perhaps I’d be an engineer or an architect.

And finally, did you enjoy writing this book, and are you planning any others?

It was fun to work with my co-editors and all the authors. Everyone was willing to squeeze in this work despite being already incredibly busy. We’d like to update the textbook periodically in order to keep it relevant and on the cutting edge. Future editions should be more electronically based and accessible to readers over the internet.