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Acta Orthopaedica et Traumatologica Turcica (AOTT) is an international, scientific, open access periodical published in accordance with independent, unbiased, and double-blinded peer-review principles. The journal is the official publication of the Turkish Association of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, and Turkish Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology. It is published bimonthly in January, March, May, July, September, and November. The publication language of the journal is English.

The aim of the journal is to publish original studies of the highest scientific and clinical value in orthopedics, traumatology, and related disciplines. The scope of the journal includes but not limited to diagnostic, treatment, and prevention methods related to orthopedics and traumatology. Acta Orthopaedica et Traumatologica Turcica publishes clinical and basic research articles, case reports, personal clinical and technical notes, systematic reviews and meta-analyses and letters to the Editor. Proceedings of scientific meetings are also considered for publication.

The target audience of the journal includes healthcare professionals, physicians, and researchers who are interested or working in orthopedics and traumatology field, and related disciplines.

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FROM THE EDITOR

Dear AOTT readers,

Our previous issue was published within the initial phase of the coronavirus pandemic, at a time when no one knew how this pandemic would affect our lives and how it would resolve. Two months later, as we are publishing our third issue, there is more optimism for the future. This issue presents three editorials that project three different views about the effects of the pandemic: Dr. Janus Wong and Kenneth M.C. Cheung from Hong Kong, who were among the first colleagues to face the pandemic and to return to the “new normal” are sharing their experiences with our readers in the first editorial. Following this, we will read another review about the measures and recommendations to be taken during the pandemic period, written by Dr. Gökhan Çakmak and his colleagues. The third editorial is a review about perioperative management recommendations for resuming elective orthopaedic surgeries in the future, or the “new normal”. This review was prepared by a task force of the Turkish Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, comprising of Dr. Kahraman Öztürk and his colleagues. Many interesting research articles and case reports follow these interesting editorials in this issue.

Most aspects of our daily lives have been negatively affected by the pandemic. However, this does not apply to the editorial boards of scientific journals. Most journal editors I have contacted indicate that the rate of acceptance from reviewers increased while the time for reviewer evaluation decreased significantly. AOTT journal statistics reflect many positive developments on this matter. For example, reviewers’ “days to respond to invitation” was 1.8 days for the first 5 months of 2020, while this time period was 3.9 days and 4.4 days for 2019 and 2018 respectively, more than twice as long. Out of the 882 reviewer invitations sent within the first 5 months of 2020, 55% (489) were completed in the first three weeks. The same rate was 48% (343 invitations out of 710) for 2019 and 44% (276 out of 623) for 2018. Fast response rate of our reviewers and the contributions of our associate editors have made it possible to see that the mean time to “journal turnaround time for submission to first decision” was reduced to 31.5 days in the first 5 months of 2020 compared to 97.8 and 107.6 days for the same time period in 2019 and 2018 respectively. We will work hard to continue this progress we have acquired at “times of corona” during the “new normal” as well.

Stay safe until the next issue.

Best regards,

Önder Kılıçoğlu
AOTT Editor-in-Chief