



## Editorial

## Editor's Perspectives – March 2017



In the previous Editor's Perspectives, I have introduced the term 'bibliometrics' to you. I have also talked about the most common bibliometric measures used in evaluating a clinician. These measures include the total number of medical articles published, the total citation, the impact factors or the scientific ranking of the journals in which these articles are published and the h-index. All these bibliometric measures have limitations when used alone and therefore these measures should be combined. In addition, proper evaluation of how innovative a clinician is should also include the number of patents and the amount of research grants obtained. Finally, recognition by peer groups in terms of honours and awards bestowed onto an individual by international / national / local professional organizations, important positions held in professional societies and services to countries and to the public should also be considered.

In this March 2017 issue of the International Journal of Surgery, there are 8 articles on systematic review with or without meta-analysis. The first article entitled "A systematic review of prehabilitation programs in abdominal cancer surgery" should appeal to all clinicians who manage abdominal cancer. There are two articles on colorectal cancer. The first one is entitled "Prognostic and clinical significance of claudin-1 in colorectal cancer: a systematic review and meta-analysis" and the other one is "Laparoscopic versus open surgery for rectal cancer: a meta-analysis of classic randomized controlled trials and high-quality nonrandomized studies in the last 5 years". For endocrine surgeons, there is an article on the use of neuromonitoring to avoid nerve injury during thyroidectomy entitled "Systematic review and meta-analysis of intraoperative neuromonitoring during thyroidectomy". There are four articles which should be interesting to our orthopaedic colleagues, and they are "Interspinous process devices (IDP) alone versus decompression surgery for lumbar spinal stenosis (LSS): a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials", "A meta-analysis of external fixation versus open reduction and internal fixation for complex tibial plateau fractures", "Efficacy and safety of intraarticular hyaluronic acid and corticosteroid for knee osteoarthritis: a meta-analysis", and "Preoperative chlorhexidine reduces the incidence of surgical site infections in total knee and hip arthroplasty: a systematic review and meta-analysis".

For Original Research articles, there is a very good survey on 149 registrants to the Research Registry on their awareness and attitude towards research registration, a highly recommended article for all those who are involved in research. For hepato-pancreato-biliary surgeons, there are 8 articles in this surgical field which covers

non-B non-C hepatocellular carcinoma, enhanced recovery after pancreaticoduodenectomy, prognosis after surgery for pancreatic cancer, impact of sacropenia on prognosis in pancreatic cancer, combined vascular resection for periampullary cancers, comparison in surgical prognosis for asymptomatic and symptomatic non-functioning pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors, age-related differences in cholecystectomy, and unusual causes of biliary obstruction due to aortic and splanchnic artery aneurysms.

For breast and endocrine surgeons, there is a prospective study on the role of sentinel lymph node biopsy before neoadjuvant therapy in breast cancer, a prospective study on the use of minimally invasive radioguided parathyroidectomy, the use of parathyroid reimplantation with PR-FaST technique during thyroidectomy, and a retrospective study on postoperative hypomagnesaemia in patients after total thyroidectomy combined with central compartment neck dissection.

For orthopaedic surgeons, there is a retrospective study on complications after anterolateral right-sided approach to treat cervical degenerative disorders, a retrospective study on prealbumin level and surgical complications in long-segment spinal fusion, and a study on lower extremity injuries in a low-income country, Malawi.

There should be at least one article which should be interesting to surgeons in almost every field of surgery. There is an article on inguinal hernia using the Desarda's technique with Lichtenstein mesh repair, a study on surgical treatment of patients with progressing metastatic gastrointestinal stromal tumors who were receiving sunitinib, a study on robotic cardiac surgery, a study on video-assisted thoracoscopic lobectomy and segmentectomy after 3-dimensional image reconstruction, a nested case-control study on acute kidney injury after oesophageal cancer surgery, a study on multi-modal therapy on patients with acute posterior circulation ischemic stroke, and last but not the least, the first experience on open small incision rectus sheath renal transplant.

I am very happy to see that in this March issue, there are 3 Letters to the Editor. The first two Letters are especially important and they are "Students' participation in collaborative research should be recognized" and "An innovative solution to raise public awareness using a mobile colorectal clinic – The 'bowel bus'". The third Letter comments on an article which was previously published in our Journal, and the article is entitled "Clinical evaluation of balloon occlusion of the lower abdominal aorta in patients with placenta previa and previous cesarean section: A retrospective study on 43 cases". As stated in my previous Perspectives, we encourage more Letters to the Editor which make the Journal much more interesting

to read, and they help to exchange views and opinions amongst our readers.

I am very excited to say that our Journal is publishing a lot of good articles which cover most fields of surgery. Please enjoy going through the contents of these articles.

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