



EFORT Open Reviews: Evolution

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2019 is a year of transition for EOR. We have now published more than 200 reviews since inception and today a majority of the review papers are sent in spontaneously from authors all over the world. The Journal is now indexed in all the major citation databases including PubMed, Google Scholar and Scopus. We are looking for further developments in this area in coming months and our readers will be kept informed as the situation unfolds.

This year the print issue, distributed at the EFORT meeting in Lisbon, will feature a special collection of Registry papers. I would like to pay a specific tribute to Rob Nelissen who did a great job as Guest Editor for putting together such a unique collection of original papers on the difficult topic of implant registries. The theme has received an unexpected boost of sudden public interest fueled by the 'Implant files' articles that have recently inundated the lay press. Orthopaedic surgeons throughout the world have continuously demonstrated their responsible approach towards implant safety. This is proven by the collective interest of the profession in producing objective data available to the public by proactively participating in the data collection leading to the national or regional implant registries described in this special issue of EOR. In a nutshell: surgeons, patients, industry, third party payors and authorities must unite in order for arthroplasty patients to obtain optimally long-lasting results at the lowest possible risk and paramount efficiency. This should not result in hindering the innovation process so essential for future progress. The reader will find that all of these concepts and concerns are analyzed in depth in this series of articles.

As is to be expected, the topics covered in EOR over the years reflect general orthopaedic practice with a majority of papers published on hip, knee, foot and shoulder. We would appreciate more submissions in the less frequent topics such as trauma, basic science, spine, sports medicine, paediatrics, hand and especially oncology. That said, and based on their citation rate, it must be stressed that EOR papers are generally well received. The authors are to be congratulated for their efforts in producing high-quality articles. The reviewers also deserve high praise. Mostly toiling in the shadows, they are just as responsible for the quality of the finished published

product. Many EOR papers, prior to acceptance and final publication, undergo several peer-review and revision cycles, much improving their quality in the process, so our authors willingly admit. Contrary to research papers which cannot be amended if the basis of the methodology is flawed, most review papers can be improved through constructive critique and hard work and thus transformed from a roughly-hewn stone into a beautiful gem. To paraphrase Montaigne "It is better to forge a paper than to furnish it".¹

Medical education is also evolving, gone are the packed medical school auditoriums where students were taught eminence-based concepts. Today, all learners in all professions demand exposure to high-quality, objective and scientifically-based data. The EOR editorial team ensures that the published reviews abide by these concepts. Although to be balanced, fair and useful, a review must not only be scientifically sound but, after all options have been explored, it must also express the legitimate views of the author(s) as to what constitutes in their eyes the best diagnostic or treatment modality. Marvin Tile, the famous trauma surgeon from Toronto, has always stressed understanding the 'personality' of the fracture. Similarly, readers also need to appreciate the 'personality' of the review they are reading. Strong personality makes for good information as long as the essential content remains objective, fair and balanced.

Images, pictures, films and videos are mainstream educational tools nowadays. EOR will strive to bring more image and video content in the future. We appeal to authors with video-illustrative contents such as tips for specific physical signs, technical procedures or surgical interventions, to submit such material for publication in EOR. We do recognize however that images involving patients, human specimens and proprietary implants or devices are always delicate to publish openly and all precautions will be taken. EOR will insist that all the necessary authorizations are obtained before publication.

Finally, the EOR editorial team wishes to thank our outgoing Managing Editor Amy Goggins for all the great work she has done in the production and promotion of EOR from its beginnings. We wish Amy happiness and

success in her new career. We would like to welcome Mandy Webb as our new Managing Editor.

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REFERENCE

1. **Michel de Montaigne.** *Essais*. 1580, Bordeaux, Ed: S Millanges, Livre III. The original citation: 'J'aime mieux forger mon âme que la meubler'.