



## Dear Colleagues,

We are happy to reach the third issue of 2012.

As you know, our journal has been included in the “TÜBİTAK ULAKBİM Turkish Medical Index” for the last five years. A major change in TÜBİTAK negatively affected our attempts to be included in the expanded SCI index. The relevant committee which will decide on this issue has changed again, and so a decision whether to directly continue our relationship with Thompson Publishing was taken. Our attempts regarding this issue have had a positive result, and an evaluation and pre-decision date have been set by Thompson Publishing for October 2012. We have also been waiting for one year for the first evaluation in July 2012 and then the pre-decision as a result of writing to “Pub Med”, which is “Index Medicus” by its old name. We will hopefully soon get results from our serious attempts, which we have been making for seven years, despite the difficulties we have encountered surrounding article collecting and other issues. However, I would like to mention that our need for your support has increased here. Hereby, I would like to thank the people supporting our journal, our head Prof. Dr. Emre Acaroğlu, İris İnteraktif and Rekmay Publishing.

There are five research articles in this issue in total. The first is a study on morphometric analysis of the lumbar vertebrae. In this issue, two studies are related to idiopathic scoliosis. The second study is a scoliosis study conducted with radiological scanning. The third study reports the results of a three-rod technique in rigid scoliosis. In this issue, there is also a study from the Rizoli Institute. This study, which analyzes the factors indicating the necessity of transfusion in degenerative diseases, is quite interesting. The last article discusses metastatic spinal tumors that progress with lesions similar to aneurysmal bone cysts. I think that all of these studies will considerably interest our readers.

In this issue, there are also three case studies. The first case is a spinal cord injury that did not develop neurological deficit after being stabbed, the second is a lumbar disc prosthesis case that developed neurological deficit, and the final case is a pulmonary emboli case that developed after the application of a pedicular screw reinforced with cement.

There is also a detailed and enlightening review in this issue, discussing Scheuermann’s Kyphosis, which will contribute to knowledge and be of interest to our readers.

In our Spinal Surgery Pioneers section in this issue, we discuss Sir Arthur R. Hodgson, who is the head of the team actualizing the Hong Kong procedure, which is accepted as the gold standard for Pott treatment. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alpaslan Şenköylü prepared this article for this issue.

The first and third modules were performed in İstanbul within the scope of the Eurospine Certificate on 10–11 and 12 May, 2012. As we know, the Eurospine Certificate program will be completed by performing Module 4 on 13–14 September: Spinal deformations, and Module 5 on 15–16 September: Revision Surgery and Complications.

“Advanced Pediatric Spine” training will be organized at the Finland Orton Institute on 2–3 August 2012. Dietrich Schlenzka and Rüdiger Krauspe, who are experts on this subject, will head this training, which is supported by EPOS.

The annual meeting of the Asia Pacific Orthopedics Committee will be held on 3–6 October 2012 in New Delhi, India. Our organization places great importance on the representation of our country at this committee’s meeting, in which spinal surgeons are considerably effective.

The first four of the “**Marmara Spinal Group Meetings**”, which include İstanbul and neighboring cities and which are conducted to increase interest in spinal surgery, particularly for assistants and new specialists, to contribute to their training and to transfer the experience of experienced colleagues, and which I will head this year and Surgeon Mehmet Aydoğan will perform the secretariat function, was successfully completed. In May, Prof. Dr. Erol Yalnız presented his talk entitled “Classification in cervical breaks and its importance in direction of treatment” and on 20 June 2012, before the summer holiday, Prof. Dr. Ahmet Alanay presented his speech entitled “Classification in thoracolumbar breaks and its importance in direction of treatment”. These meetings will start again in September and they will be held on the third Wednesday of each month, alternately on the European and Anatolian sides. On **Wednesday 19 September 2012**, which is the first meeting, **Prof. Dr. Emre Acaroğlu**, the head of our organization, will perform a talk entitled “**Approaches to adult deformations and surgical treatment choices**”. All the assistants and specialist doctors who are interested in spinal surgery in İstanbul and around are invited. The program for November–December 2012 and for 2013 will be announced later. “Lumbar disc hernia surgery cadaver training” will be organized in December. Planning for this training, which I believe will be quite helpful to all orthopedic assistants and young specialists, has begun.

We are continuing to answer the STE questions, which we publish in accordance with the request from TOTBİD TOTEK for re-certification, in this issue. The answers to the questions included in this issue should be sent to [cutku@ada.net.tr](mailto:cutku@ada.net.tr) or [admin@jtss.org.tr](mailto:admin@jtss.org.tr), addresses that are also indicated on the page that includes the questions. Answers received will be sent by us to the relevant secretary working at TOTBİD TOTEK.

We wish a summer holiday with health, success, and peace and without accident to the Turkish Spinal Surgery family, and we present our deepest respects.

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