

Peeping in to the Glorious Past and Pondering on What is New in Urology

It gives us a great pleasure to present to you this special issue on Urology for Bombay Hospital Journal (BHJ).

A gentle request from Prof. Satish Khadilkar, Dean BHIMS and Chief Editor of BHJ to come out with a special issue on urology was well received by the department of urology at BHIMS. Having done one special issue on Urology and one on renal transplantation in the past for BHJ, we had to come out with some innovative theme. Department of Urology has a glorious past, has many stalwarts who have brought BHIMS on global map, has produced many academicians, and superb surgeons through its versatile training program over the past 3–4 decades. Why not get these authorities in the different subspecialties of urology spread across the globe to present their work? The idea was floated in the departmental meeting and there was unanimous agreement on this concept.

Hence, the work began Prof. Dr. Umesh Oza – head of the department, Dr. Prashant Pattanaik – Professor of Urology at BHIMS and Dr. Makarand Khochikar – an alumni of BHIMS, internationally, acclaimed urologic oncologist and academican working in Sangli-Miraj with lot of editorial experience under his belt were entrusted the job as guest editors. An appeal was made all the alumni of BHIMS and some formal invitations were sent to submit their manuscripts covering various aspects of urology.

It is always interesting to look back into the history. As mentioned earlier BHIMS as a glorious past, thanks to the stalwarts in the department. Khochikar *et al.* (p. 1) takes us through a wonderful journey of their original research which resulted into the landmark publications which are still relevant today. Robotics in urology has arrived in a big way and is going to stay forever. Its application in pediatric patients has been debated, but like any other new technology, it is making safe inroads in the pediatric population too. Prof. Mohan Gundeti, alumni of BHIMS who is currently working in Chicago, along with Rimel Mwamba, has given us an extensive review of past, present, and future of robotics in pediatric urology (p. 53).

Innovating a new technique is one thing, but to get it popularized is another. Prof. Dr. Dinesh Agrawal, consultant urologist from Melbourne, Australia is a great innovator right from his residency times at BHIMS. His sliding clip technique in renorrhaphy in partial nephrectomy has made life easier for everyone in MIS as well as open surgery. How it has percolated in the day to day practice is analyzed by his team member Nicolas Sopotro (p. 50), it is an interesting read.

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COVID-19 hit all of us in a big way. The impact on the health infrastructure was unmeasurable; one aspect which was slightly sidelined was its impact on the training program across all the specialties and across the globe, as all the trainees and consultants alike were involved in the care of patients affected by COVID-19. M Naik and D Gosalia (p. 10) have done a great survey among the urology residents in India and their conclusions show us the mirror and what could have been done and what should we do in future in case such a pandemic resurfaces.

Emphysematous pyelonephritis is a challenging situation. Many patients land into loosing their kidney due to sepsis. Prabhudesai *et al.* from Goa give us insights about how to save such patients and their kidneys based on some clinical and laboratory findings and not getting swayed by the frightening radiological pictures. Sepsis in a case of PCNL can be a disaster. Predicting this potential complication can be rewarding and life-saving if done with a precision. Vaidya and Shivade from Pune have done a great study looking at these predictive factors, a great clinical work.

Andrology as a specialty is growing with a great pace in India. Erectile dysfunction (ED) could tell us about their diseased heart, which concludes Karthikeyan *et al.* (p. 14) from southern part of India with his vast experience at his tertiary care center. Incidence of ED in patients with chronic kidney disease undergoing hemodialysis is looked into by Deshpande *et al.* Peyronie's disease though an established entity, clinicians fumble on choosing what is right for these patients. Bhave *et al.* from Pune, alumni of BHIMS with a great analytic mind takes us through a practical mini-review on this subject.

The incidence of urologic cancers is increasing, so as the challenges posed by them. Renal cell carcinoma with IVC

thrombus is always tricky to treat. N Patil *et al.* (p. 31) take us through their experience of dealing with these patients at BHIMS, while V Vinkare and J N Kulkarni *et al.* (p. 25) convince the readers that open partial nephrectomy is still relevant in the era of minimal invasive surgery.

Treating stones in the transplanted kidney require a team effort and can be challenging as the graft is at a great risk. Pattanaik *et al.* have shown the right way of how to approach and choose a modality with great success in this group of patients at BHIMS.

Artificial intelligence in urology is coming in a big way. A Patil *et al.* give us some glimpses of this in times to come. Hope the readers find this “handicraft” interesting.

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