

LETTERS TO EDITORIAL BOARD PISMA UREDNIŠTVU

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to introduce the first issue of Medical Review for 2026, which brings together contributions addressing important contemporary challenges in clinical medicine, surgery, rehabilitation, reproductive medicine, and translational research. The articles included in this issue reflect the growing importance of multidisciplinary collaboration, personalized treatment strategies, and the integration of emerging technologies into everyday clinical practice.

The issue opens with an *editorial* by **Mobasheri**, who discusses the transition from consensus-based recommendations toward real-world implementation of personalized osteoarthritis care. The author emphasizes the need for phenotypic stratification, multimodal management, and patient-centered approaches in order to overcome the limitations of traditional “one-size-fits-all” therapeutic models. This contribution highlights the future direction of osteoarthritis management, integrating precision medicine, multidisciplinary care, and research equity into routine clinical practice [1].

Among the *original studies*, **Nikolić et al.** present a comprehensive 15-year analysis of groin wound infections following femoral vascular access procedures in a tertiary vascular center. Their findings demonstrate a persistently high incidence of surgical site infections and a concerning increase in methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* over time, underscoring the importance of ongoing epidemiological surveillance and institutional antimicrobial stewardship strategies [2].

The prospective observational study by **Belopavlović et al.** evaluates pain assessment after gastrointestinal endoscopic procedures in pediatric patients. By focusing on the subjective experience of pain and procedural tolerance in children, the authors emphasize the importance of age-appropriate assessment tools and individualized perioperative care in pediatric gastroenterology [3].

Another important vascular surgery contribution comes from **Budinski et al.**, who analyze outcomes and complications of open carotid artery revascularization in relation to the clinical presentation of disease. Their results provide clinically relevant insights into perioperative risk stratification and highlight the continued importance of surgical expertise in the treatment of carotid artery pathology [4].

The study by **Batinić et al.** investigates perioperative outcomes after open surgical repair of symptomatic non-ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysm. The authors demonstrate the complexity of managing these high-risk patients and emphasize the significance of careful preoperative evaluation and perioperative optimization in improving surgical outcomes [5].

In the *review article*, **Uram Dubovski et al.** discuss preoperative considerations and the most common non-obstetric surgical conditions encountered during pregnancy. This comprehensive overview addresses diagnostic challenges, anesthetic considerations, and surgical timing, highlighting the importance of multidisciplinary cooperation between surgeons, obstetricians, anesthesiologists, and neonatologists in achieving optimal maternal and fetal outcomes [6].

Within the *Seminar for Physicians* section, **Bjelica et al.** provide an overview of current applications of artificial intelligence in *in vitro* fertilization. The authors discuss the growing role of machine learning and automated image analysis in embryo selection, treatment optimization, and reproductive outcome prediction, while also critically addressing current limitations and ethical considerations associated with the use of artificial intelligence in reproductive medicine [7].

Among the *case reports*, **Vlačić et al.** describe the non-specific clinical manifestation of nodular cutaneous melanoma. This report highlights the diagnostic difficulties associated with atypical dermatologic presentations and emphasizes the importance of maintaining a high index of suspicion for malignant skin lesions in everyday clinical practice [8].

Finally, **Lazin et al.** present a series of cases in which exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease represented the initial manifestation of lung carcinoma. These cases underscore the importance of careful diagnostic evaluation in patients with atypical or treatment-resistant respiratory symptoms, particularly in populations at increased oncological risk [9].

We hope that the contributions presented in this issue will stimulate further research, support evidence-based clinical decision-making, and encourage interdisciplinary collaboration across multiple fields of medicine. I would like to sincerely thank all authors, reviewers, and members of the editorial board for their continued dedication to the journal and to the advancement of medical science.

With kind regards,

*Radmila Matijević
Editor-in-Chief, Medical Review*

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