

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR *PISMO UREDNIKA*

Medicine between the bedside and the algorithm: reflections on the March – June issue of *Medical Review*

As I write this note for our July - August number, the preceding March–June double issue has only just reached our readers, and it rewards a second look. Read as a whole rather than as a sequence of separate papers, it offers a portrait of where clinical medicine in our region is placing its attention, and of the questions our contributors judge most worth asking. Two currents run through it with particular force, namely the arrival of computational tools at the clinical coalface and a renewed, careful attention to the individual patient, and it is around these that I should like to organise a few remarks.

The most conspicuous thread is the steady advance of artificial intelligence and digital technology into everyday practice. The issue carried an original study applying deep-learning models to the classification of colorectal adenomas, framed not merely as a technical exercise but as a proposal for redesigning pathology workflows and relieving a genuine workforce burden [1]. It was joined by a review of artificial intelligence in urodynamic studies, which weighed the promise of machine learning against the sober reality that visual interpretation by an experienced clinician remains, for now, the cornerstone of diagnosis [2]. Read together, the two pieces move from enthusiasm to appraisal, that is, from what these systems can do to how, and how cautiously, they might be brought into routine use.

Alongside this technological current runs a second, older, and no less important one: the discipline of individualised judgement. The issue opened with a thoughtful invited editorial on the estimation of renal function before zoledronate injection, arguing that when a binary safety decision turns on a narrow threshold in a frail patient, an imprecise creatinine-based estimate may simply not be good enough, which amounts to a plea, in essence, for measuring rather than assuming [3]. The same spirit animated a paediatric case report describing anaesthetic management of a child with confirmed allergy to midazolam, atropine and rocuronium, where even routine agents became a hazard and safe care depended on a bespoke

plan [4]. These are reminders that guidelines describe populations, while patients present one at a time.

Several papers speak directly to the health of our own community. Regional, single-centre experience continues to anchor the journal, whether in a four-year review of basal cell carcinoma at the University Clinical Center of Vojvodina [5], or in a seminar on the state of dental-arch supporting zones in children in Vojvodina [6]. Such work rarely makes international headlines, yet it is precisely the local reference data on which sound regional practice depends.

The remaining contributions confirm the breadth our readers have come to expect: original studies on the timing of anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction [7], on predictors of recurrent sudden cardiac arrest after defibrillator implantation [8], on the laboratory, radiological and clinical correlates of popliteal artery aneurysm thrombosis [9], on uric acid concentrations in bipolar disorder [10], on collagen and elastic fibre distribution in sarcoidosis and hypersensitivity pneumonitis [11], on hand morphometry in young adults [12] and on tibial length and torsion [13]; together with a multidisciplinary review of traumatic finger amputations [14]. The issue closed, fittingly, with a paper from the history of medicine marking 825 years since the founding of the first Serbian hospital and 850 years since the birth of its founder, Saint Sava [15], a reminder that the impulse to organise care for the sick is very old, even as its tools are very new.

Medical Review has appeared without interruption since 1948, and its usefulness has always rested on the willingness of clinicians and researchers to write down what they have learned. I thank the authors, reviewers and editorial staff whose work fills these pages, and I commend the March–June issue to our readers as a single, coherent conversation between the enduring craft of the bedside and the new instruments now placed in our hands.

Radmila Matijević
Editor-in-Chief

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