



Editorial

Dear Reader,

Once again we have reached the final issue of the year for the Erciyes Medical Journal and I hope that you have found guiding materials in the articles published throughout 2012. The National Impact Factor of the Erciyes Medical Journal (0.070 for year 2012), which is calculated by *Türkiye Atıf Dizini*, remained upper the average of 179 journals which are covered by the Turkish Citation Index (0.031 for year 2012). For this reason, in the beginning, I would like to, once again, express my gratitude to all authors for submitting their valuable studies to the EMJ and to referees to improve the scientific quality of the published manuscripts. I believe that the continuing success of the Journal depends on our referees' ongoing enthusiasm and support.

I must express one more time that the journal is prepared within the context of international standards in biomedical publishing by an idealistic team experienced in scientific publishing, and it is aimed to be accepted by PubMed, Science Citation Index Expanded and other international indexes. I am very happy to announce that William Coetzee and Massimo Filippi join the International Editorial Board of the Erciyes Medical Journal. Dr. Coetzee is currently director of Research Department of Pediatrics, New York University. He is professor of Pediatrics, Physiology and Neuroscience, and Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology and his research interests are electrophysiology and molecular biology of cardiovascular membrane ion transport proteins. Dr. Filippi is the director of the Neuroimaging Research Unit in the Vita-Salute San Raffaele University in Milan, Italy. His research activity has always been focused on the use of MR-based technology to improve our understanding of how neurological diseases determine progressive accumulation of irreversible physical disability and cognitive impairment. I would like to thank for their acceptance of our invitation. I hope that their effort will further motivate us to achieve our scientific objectives.

The December issue begins with a discussion of genetic polymorphism. Çelik and co-workers report own results on polymorphism in the gene that encodes glutathione S-transferase, an enzyme which catalyzes the conjugation of activated xenobiotics to reduced glutathione. Their results have shown that frequency of GSTZ1*A allele is lower in a Turkish population living the Mersin region. An interesting study is presented by Serbest and co-workers as the second article. They compared the effects of intraarticularly administered local anesthetic and opioid combinations on postoperative pain and found that intra-articular levobupivacaine alone can be as effective as along with morphine or tramadol in postoperative analgesia after arthroscopic knee surgery. I hope you will find their results interesting. Can et al draw the attention to accidental catheter and tube removal. They present a prospective observational study, showing increased likelihood of accidental catheter and tube removal on days when a high number of patients are admitted in a surgical intensive care unit. This is followed by a clinical evaluation study in which Çelen and co-workers analyze the cervical culture results of pregnant women who present with normal pregnancy, preterm labor and premature rupture of membranes. They report that colonization in cervical culture for preterm labor and premature rupture of membranes was statistically higher compared with normal pregnancy. And finally for research article, another clinical evaluation is presented by Şahin and co-workers. They report that recurrent disease development and chronic graft versus host disease are the most significant factors affecting mortality, depending on the results of 184 patients who underwent stem cell transplantation.

This issue also includes a number of interesting case studies. A 12-day-old neonate who admitted with complaints of cough, respiratory distress and stridor and diagnosed as bilateral vocal cord paralysis was presented by Sarıcı and co-workers. Abdürezzak et al. report a 41-year-old woman with the complaints of dizziness, nausea and amenorrhea. Vurdem and co-workers present a rare localization of congenital dermoid cyst. Aydın et al present brain MR imaging and proton-MR spectroscopy findings of a 31 year old male patient who diagnosed as Wilson's disease. Koç et al. present computed tomography findings of left-sided inferior vena cava, as a rare congenital vascular anomaly.

I also hope that in this edition of the EMJ, you will find useful material for your academic or clinical research. I wish you enjoy the fourth issue of the EMJ.

On behalf of the Editorial Board

Prof. Dr. Cem Süer
Editor-in-Chief