
Gulf Medical Journal - A new forum for academicians and researchers

Editorial

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This year at the concluding session of the 4th Annual Scientific Meeting being held on the 14th Anniversary of Gulf Medical University, the President will launch the inaugural issue of the Gulf Medical Journal. This e-journal represents the three-pronged mission of the university to promote academia, healthcare and research, both community- and laboratory-based. The bi-annual publication in keeping with its name will focus mainly on research done in education, research and healthcare in the fields of medicine and allied health sciences in the Gulf countries. The editorial team has put together a miscellany of articles representing research studies conducted mainly in the Gulf region.

The opening article of the inaugural issue discusses the experiences of introducing curricular developments in medical schools in the Gulf region. The fallout of these changes is being reported as the increased prevalence of stress among medical students in a Saudi Arabia university and the authors conclude with a plea to make the curriculum more student-friendly.

The next few papers are related to professional practice including a series of Oral Lichen Planus cases reported from Iraq highlighting the clinico-pathologic features of the disease; and an audit of

the practice of antibiotic prophylaxis for women undergoing cesarean section in UAE that stresses the need to follow standard practice guidelines. A retrospective study on the urinary biochemical factors to predict recurrence in patients with urinary tract stones in UAE discusses how simple dietary measures like monitoring fluid intake particularly during the summer months in the Gulf region can reduce cases of urolithiasis in the community. A case control study of epileptics in UAE shows familial clustering of epilepsy but no association with consanguinity.

A case report on a testicular yolk sac tumor and Tako-Tsubo cardiomyopathy are reported for their rarity. A clinical quiz on a red eye as part of a self-assessment exercise adds an element of 'fun'.

Last, but not the least, the article on 'A Point of Debate' discusses the need to discourage the misuse of the terms used in specific educational settings, for example, 'skill' in the psychomotor and 'apply', in the cognitive domains, in out of context situations.

We welcome manuscripts from academicians, clinicians and other researchers that deal with topics of special interest to the practitioners and the community in the Gulf region.

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