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Dear Esteemed Readers, Authors, Editors and Peer Reviewers,

As we conclude the inaugural year of the Intercontinental Journal of Emergency Medicine, we are excited to present our fourth and final issue. This year has been a remarkable journey, marked not only by academic resilience but also by our collective response to extraordinary global challenges, including the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, various conflicts, terrorist attacks, and natural disasters like earthquakes in different areas of the world. These events have underscored the vital importance of emergency medicine and the fundamental human rights that guide our work, including the right to life, safety, justice, education, nationality, and the right to seek asylum.

In this issue, we feature ten significant contributions—seven original articles and three case reports—that considerably enhance the diverse landscape of emergency medicine. These articles reflect the dynamic and evolving nature of our field, emphasizing the crucial role our journal plays in advancing emergency medical care while steadfastly upholding human rights.

Below, you will find the original articles presenting a broad spectrum of research and studies. Each one offers unique perspectives and findings to the field of emergency medicine:

1. An examination of the effects of COVID-19 on musculoskeletal pain, fatigue, and hand grip strength in pregnant women contributed to our understanding of the pandemic's impact on this specific demographic.
2. A research piece on the effectiveness of biomarkers in predicting traumatic brain injury in pediatric patients with minor head trauma.
3. A study exploring the role of biochemical parameters, including the neutrophil-lymphocyte ratio, in predicting mortality among cancer patients in emergency settings.
4. A comprehensive comparison of the Canadian and San Francisco syncope rules, providing valuable insights for emergency department protocols.
5. An analysis of the rescue operations and outcomes from a recent avalanche disaster, offering crucial lessons in safety and emergency response strategies.
6. An innovative evaluation of the effectiveness of echocardiography and compression ultrasonography in diagnosing pulmonary embolism, enhancing our diagnostic capabilities.
7. An in-depth examination of occupational accidents and injuries, calling attention to the need for improved safety measures in the workplace.

Complementing these articles, our case reports delve into specific, complex scenarios, offering deep insights and critical learning:

1. A unique presentation of simultaneous atrioventricular nodal reentrant tachycardia attacks in a mother and daughter, drawing attention to the familial nature of the condition.
2. An innovative approach to treating mesenteric vein thrombosis linked to synthetic drug use, demonstrating the versatility and adaptability required in emergency medical care.
3. A case highlighting the dangers of anticoagulant dose reduction in a patient with atrial fibrillation, leading to rapid thromboembolism development and death.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our contributors, whose rigorous research and analyses formed the bedrock of this journal. This year, our journal has been particularly enriched by contributions not only from the field of emergency medicine but also from related disciplines such as anesthesiology, cardiology, intensive care, internal medicine, interventional radiology, orthopaedics, perinatology, pulmonology, radiology, general surgery, neurology, and neurosurgery. The interdisciplinary nature of these contributions has helped provide a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the challenges and solutions in emergency medical care.

Our editorial board members and reviewers have been instrumental in maintaining high standards, ensuring we remain a trusted source of specialist knowledge in emergency medicine, representing a diverse range of expertise.

As we look forward to the future, we eagerly anticipate another year of groundbreaking research and stimulating discussion. We invite contributions that address current gaps in emergency medicine literature, especially those reflecting the global challenges and experiences of practitioners facing pandemics, wars, terrorist attacks, and life-changing natural disasters.

Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication through a year that has tested our resilience and adaptability. Your commitment inspires us to continue our path of discovery and innovation in emergency medical care, always with a focus on protecting and advocating for human rights. As we step into the New Year, we look forward to new discoveries and ongoing collaboration in our shared journey of advancing emergency medicine.

Wishing you a Happy New Year filled with new insights, breakthroughs, and collective success.

Sincerely,

Umut OCAK, MD

Chief Editor

Intercontinental Journal of Emergency Medicine

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