



Letter to the Editor / *Editöre mektup*

Notice of plagiarism / *Bir intihal duyurusu*

Dear Editor,

I would like to inform you that the letter recently published electronically in the *Archives of Orthopaedics and Trauma Surgery Journal* (PubMed ID: 19066920) signed by Saccomanni^[1] is a copy of our "Letter to the Editor" published in your journal.^[2]

Our letter was submitted to your journal on 13-7-2007. The hypothesis and the cases described in the manuscript are belong to us. We possess the x-rays of the patient described in the letter.

We do not know for what purpose Dr. Saccomanni did this. We do not know him in person. We cannot explain how he acquired our paper. We have already sent an e-mail to the *Arch Orthop Trauma Surg* Editor, containing information about this case.

We are looking forward for your decision.

Best Regards,

George Mouzopoulos, MD

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References

1. Saccomanni B. Osteomusculocutaneous flap for clavicular reconstruction: a case report. *Arch Orthop Trauma Surg* 2008 Dec 10 [Epub] DOI: 10.1007/s00402-008-0792-6.
2. Mouzopoulos G, Tzurbakis M, Mouzopoulos D. Osteomusculocutaneous flap for clavicular reconstruction: a case report. *Acta Orthop Traumatol Turc* 2008;42:219-20; author reply 220.

Editor's reply / *Editörün yanıtı*

Dear Dr. Mouzopoulos,

Completing an investigation upon your notice, the technical board of AOTT has concluded that the text of the "letter to the editor" published in the *Archives of Orthopaedics and Trauma Surgery* journal^[1] is completely identical to the letter of which you are among the authors and which was recently published in our journal.^[2]

Turkish Association of Orthopaedics and Traumatology which owns the copyrights of the articles published in the journal has not transferred the copyright of this manuscript to any person or institution. When the editorial board of the AOTS journal was contacted, the journal officials responded that the situation is unacceptable and that they will try to solve the problem immediately.

The editorial board has no doubts about the originality and ownership of the views and cases presented in your letter. It is also obvious that you are not in any

way related to the author of the letter published in the AOTS journal. Our investigation also yielded the fact that other publications by this author were also copies of previously published work.

Another "Letter to the Editor" by Dr. Saccomanni published in the AOTS journal in 2008^[3] is also identical to the letter by Dr. Marya^[4] written about an article published in the *Hong Kong Journal of Orthopaedic Surgery* in 2003.^[5] Still another letter by Dr. Saccomanni published in 2008^[6] is a copy of another "Letter to the Editor" published in the *Journal of Arthroplasty* in 2006^[7], which was about a paper published in the same journal.^[8] Again, similarities between a case report by Dr. Saccomanni published in the AOTS journal^[9] and another case series published in *Arthroscopy Journal* in 2001^[10] are well beyond ethically acceptable limits.

Presenting someone else's ideas or works as someone's own without the permission of the owner is defined as "plagiarism". Plagiarism is regarded as a serious criminal act and is heavily punished. The unethical acts reported above will certainly be investigated and judged as necessary by the authorities. This incident bears further significance for us, the journal editors. It has become an obligation to scrutinize the originality of submitted articles during the review process. As a result of widespread use of electronic publications and the internet, publications from all over the world can now be reached easily. Special institutions like CrossCheck are established with the purpose of helping editors on this issue.

On behalf of the editorial board, we would like to thank Dr. Mouzopoulos, for the interest he has shown in our journal and for the meticulous follow-up of this matter,.

Respectfully,

Mehmet Demirhan, MD, Onder Kilicoglu, MD

Acta Orthopaedica Traumatologica Turcica
Editorial

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1. Saccomanni B. Osteomusculocutaneous flap for clavicular reconstruction: a case report. *Arch Orthop Trauma Surg* 2008 Dec 10 [Epub] DOI: 10.1007/s00402-008-0792-6.
2. Mouzopoulos G, Tzurbakis M, Mouzopoulos D. Osteomusculocutaneous flap for clavicular reconstruction: a case report. *Acta Orthop Traumatol Turc* 2008;42:219-20; author reply 220.
3. Saccomanni B. Anterior dislocation following primary total hip replacement. *Arch Orthop Trauma Surg* 2008 Dec 9. [Epub] DOI: 10.1007/s00402-008-0793-5
4. Marya K. Anterior dislocation following primary total hip replacement. *Hong Kong J Orthop Surg* 2003;7:155.
5. Ng N, Yau W, Tang W, Chiu K. Anterior dislocation following primary total hip replacement by the posterior approach-aetiology and treatment. *Hong Kong J Orthop Surg* 2003;7:14-8.
6. Saccomanni B. Mc Minn prosthesis. *Arch Orthop Trauma Surg* 2008;128:1013-4.
7. Sharma H. The nonoperative management of periprosthetic fractures associated with the Birmingham hip resurfacing procedure. *J Arthroplasty* 2006;21:301-2; author reply 302.
8. Cossey AJ, Back DL, Shimmin A, Young D, Spriggins AJ. The nonoperative management of periprosthetic fractures associated with the Birmingham hip resurfacing procedure. *J Arthroplasty* 2005;20:358-61.
9. Saccomanni B. An atypical aneurysmal bone cyst of the head of the humerus, arthroscopic treatment: a case report. *Arch Orthop Trauma Surg* 2008;128:1279-82.
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