

FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Acta Orthopaedica et Traumatologica Turcica Readers,

We are delighted to present you our third issue of 2011 in these first days of a hot summer. I would like to point out the significant improvements we have made with the participation of our new associate editors and technical staff in both the review and publishing processes. The submitted articles are meticulously reviewed in a timely manner by our section editors and esteemed reviewers. Before they are sent to the publisher, articles are given their final form through correspondence with the author. I would like to extend my gratitude to our authors, as well as our reviewers, associate editors, technical staff and publishing team for their efforts.

As you know, our journal is published 6 times a year. In each issue a relatively limited number of case reports (3 or 4) are published. This, in turn, leads to a long 'wait period' for these articles which are also subject to a challenging review process. Currently, the wait period for approved case reports runs around 10 to 12 months. However, for Level 1 or experimental studies this period falls to below 3 months. I would encourage our authors to keep this fact in mind when submitting their studies.

I would also like to provide some information on the Impact Factor, an index of the number of citations of articles published in a journal. The root of the Impact Factor goes back to the 1950s when it was devised by the Institute of Scientific Information, now owned by Thompson Reuters. Though the disadvantages and abuses of this indexing system have been much debated and discussed since the early 2000s, a replacement system has yet to be settled on. The recently introduced "Eigenfactor" and "Article Influence Score", however, provide us with more reliable results, not only on the relationship between two journals of the same discipline but also for 3rd or 4th degree relationships between two journals of different disciplines. A weighted, 5-year reference history is taken into account in lieu of references given within the last year.

Acta Orthopaedica et Traumatologica Turcica's impact factor has increased exponentially from 0.07 in 2006 to 0.309 points today. Our journal was also listed in the 2010 annual journal reference report of Thompson Reuters, which enabled our rating according to the "Eigenfactor" and "Article Influence Score". Acta Orthopaedica et Traumatologica Turcica is now listed as 52nd by Impact Factor, 47th by Eigenfactor and 48th by Article Influence Score. Our current rating with Eigenfactor, in our first year to be listed, has been noted with special pleasure. My belief in the exponential growth of our impact factor in the years to come is absolute. The above factors are of great importance for the international recognition of our journal. The diversity in our submissions is proof of this fact.

I wish the followers of AOTT a healthy and pleasant summer.

Mehmet Demirhan, MD

Editor-in-Chief, Acta Orthopaedica et Traumatologica Turcica