



EDITORIAL

Healthcare stands at a decisive intersection where clinical excellence, data-driven decision-making, and technological transformation converge. As both the Editor-in-Chief of this journal and the Deputy Chief Physician of Baltalimanı Bone Diseases Training and Research Hospital, it is a privilege to present the second issue of 2026 an issue that reflects not only academic rigor but also the lived realities of a high-volume, specialized orthopedic center.

This issue brings together a collection of studies that collectively illuminate the evolving landscape of orthopedics and traumatology. From artificial intelligence applications to surgical outcomes, from bibliometric mappings of niche clinical conditions to competency-based medical education, each contribution reflects a shared commitment: advancing patient care through evidence, reflection, and innovation.

A particularly noteworthy contribution in this issue is the review on false-positive HIV screening results prior to elective orthopedic surgery. Unlike purely theoretical analyses, this work emerges directly from the practical experiences of our hospital's laboratory teams. In high-throughput surgical centers like ours, preoperative screening is not merely a protocol it is a critical safeguard for both patient and provider safety. However, as highlighted in this review, false-positive HIV results can introduce significant clinical, psychological, and operational challenges.

The study sheds light on an often under-discussed dimension of perioperative care: the intersection of diagnostic accuracy, patient anxiety, and clinical decision-making. It reflects how our laboratory teams have navigated complex cases, refined confirmatory testing pathways, and contributed to more nuanced management strategies. More importantly, it demonstrates how institutional experience when systematically analyzed can evolve into knowledge that benefits the broader medical community.

Another prominent theme in this issue is the growing role of artificial intelligence in orthopedics. As healthcare systems worldwide grapple with increasing complexity, AI is no longer a distant promise but an emerging necessity. The critical reflections and performance evaluations presented here remind us that while AI offers immense potential, its integration must be guided by clinical judgment, ethical considerations, and continuous validation.

Equally valuable are the bibliometric analyses included in this issue. By mapping the scientific landscape of conditions such as chronic acromioclavicular joint dislocations and discoid meniscus management, these studies provide a strategic overview of where the field has been and where it is heading. For clinicians, researchers, and administrators alike, such insights are essential for aligning research priorities with real-world needs.



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As a public, high-capacity orthopedic institution, Baltalimani Hospital operates at the intersection of service delivery and academic production. Every patient encounter, every surgical decision, and every laboratory result carries the potential to inform future practice. This issue is a reflection of that philosophy: transforming experience into evidence, and evidence into better care.

Looking ahead, our vision for this journal is clear. We aim to strengthen its role as a platform that not only disseminates scientific knowledge but also bridges the gap between clinical practice and academic inquiry particularly within specialized and high-demand healthcare environments.

I extend my sincere gratitude to all authors, reviewers, and editorial board members who contributed to this issue. Their dedication ensures that this journal continues to grow in both quality and impact.

In an era defined by uncertainty and rapid transformation, one principle remains constant: the pursuit of better outcomes for our patients. This issue is a step forward in that journey.

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