

Editorial

LOOKING AHEAD AND LOOKING BACK: HAPPY BIRTHDAY JOINTS!

My first thought in preparing the editorial for this first issue of *Joints* 2014 was to begin by thanking all those who have helped us to achieve the first milestone of this project, launched a year ago amidst countless uncertainties and concerns. Yes, this issue sees *Joints* blowing out its first candle: so, Happy Birthday and many thanks to all you all: readers, authors, reviewers, editors and commercial partners. The valuable contribution of each and every one of you has allowed our "orange journal", with each issue, to gain credibility and appeal, both as a scientific resource and as a tool for the dissemination of data.

This year's first issue of *Joints* opens with two valuable original articles. The first, by Saccomanno et al., describes an open surgical technique for treatment of acromioclavicular joint dislocations that involves anatomical reconstruction of the coracoclavicular and acromioclavicular ligaments using one single-strand semitendinosus tendon graft. The authors present the first promising results obtained in a small sample of 18 cases. The second, by Russo et al., reports the results of a conservative integrated treatment for adhesive capsulitis of the shoulder based on local anesthetic and hyaluronic acid injections combined with a rehabilitative program designed to promote recovery of joint mobility.

The section devoted to review articles covers some fascinating points regarding the potential use of biotechnologies in the treatment of joint diseases. In particular, there is an interesting review by Marmotti et al. on the use of the umbilical cord as a potential cell source for tissue engineering and regenerative medicine purposes. De Giorgi et al. provide an update on the biochemical and histological changes underlying degenerative rotator cuff tears.

Zanon et al. have contributed a highly instructive and informative review on osteochondritis dissecans of the knee, a disease of great clinical and scientific importance. Equally useful and interesting for our readers is the step-by-step description of the soft-tissue balancing technique in total knee arthroplasty provided by Meloni et al.

Finally, particular mention must be made of Andrea Ferretti's commentary on a historical but still highly topical issue in knee surgery: Ferretti runs through and critically reanalyzes, in the light of current trends and knowledge, the statements that came out of the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (AOSSM) consensus conference of 1989, which took place in Snowmass (Colorado, USA). For many years, these were the basis for the construction of the decision-making algorithm for the treatment of extra-articular knee ligament injuries associated with anterior cruciate ligament injuries. I warmly recommend this interesting article, especially to our younger readers. It will make them realize just how many truths fail to stand the test of time and how many discoveries are, in actual fact, rediscoveries. The future, without memory, has a cyclic destiny.

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