
Introduction

The Italian Society of Osteoporosis, Mineral Metabolism and Skeletal Diseases (SIOMMMS) is announcing the birth of its Journal. I was honored and delighted to be asked to be the first Editor, and I am well aware of what has, for. While most of us agree that the highest impact Journals are doing an excellent job in covering many of the ground breaking advances in the field, a large number of papers, focused on individual cases, are either not published or published in flawed form. Consequently, works of potential importance are lost in the avalanche of publications.

Clinical Cases in Mineral and Bone Metabolism should be a forum in which experienced physicians demonstrate the application of recent medical advances to diagnosis and management of individual cases. Many cases will have both a differential diagnosis component and a management component. The focus should be an issue of practical value, with emphasis on scientific advances that enhance our understanding of diseases in way that affects patient care. Cases which illustrate common or difficult problems in differential diagnosis of unusual diseases, will be conducted with experienced discussants coming from different backgrounds. These discussions will focus on controversial issues in prevention, diagnosis, prognosis, or therapy.

The audience should include students, trainees and practitioners, both national and international. The best method of learning is to apply new knowledge when it is presented in the form of an experience likely to be encountered in practice. In medicine this experience is inevitably centered on the individual patient.

The most important goal of the Journal is to receive good papers. To enhance the Journal's overall appeal, I invite suggestions for suitable topics from leaders in the field (both at the junior and senior levels). A rapid and fair evaluation will be completed with the degree of editorial oversight, that only peer-scientists can provide.

The manuscripts published in this first issue of the Journal focus on various aspects of primary hypercalciuria and were subject to a peer reviewing procedure. We hope that readers will find this issue an informative collection of papers on what is an emerging disorder of mineral and bone metabolism.

I hope that you will begin to consider *Clinical Cases in Mineral and Bone Metabolism* as a new forum for presenting interesting contributions from your Center.

I am confident that the Journal will have an ongoing effect on the practice of medicine in the area of mineral and bone metabolism by helping physicians translate the scientific technological advances into the care of individual patients. I trust published interesting cases in the future will become highly cited landmarks in our field. If you have any question, feel free to contact me directly at "m.brandi@dmi.unifi.it".

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