ISAKOS and JISAKOS – shifting gears, picking up steam and moving forward

Marc R Safran

Welcome to Volume 3 of JISAKOS. This is an exciting time for ISAKOS and our Journal. ISAKOS and JISAKOS continue to grow... and you will notice something different about this issue of JISAKOS: our Journal now includes original research! A very exciting development.

It has long been a wish for all of us at ISAKOS to have our own Journal, and in 2016 we gave birth to the Journal of ISAKOS. Originally, our Journal was limited to State of the Art manuscripts and Systematic Reviews, providing our unique world-wide perspective on topics important to our membership – all aspects of orthopaedic sports medicine and knee surgery. We did this in a way that only our Society can do... a truly international sports medicine Society of the leaders in our field of sports medicine and knee surgery.

JISAKOS is provided in print and online to all our members six times a year. Every 2 months the Journal has published an important and inspiring Editorial, along with averaging four systematic reviews, 2 state of the art papers, and commentaries on a classic article, together with one current concepts article. All papers go through a rigorous peer review process, yet the average time to first decision for all papers is less than a month. From a readership perspective, we have witnessed increased page views, downloads and sessions. The word is getting out: our Journal provides a unique international perspective from experts and is highly regarded.

However, we are not standing still. We continue to expand and mature, and this issue of JISAKOS marks the beginning of our publication of original research. We are very thrilled about this, and we believe you will be too. This issue of JISAKOS includes six original research articles, in addition to what have traditionally been our most important contributions – a State of the Art article, a systematic review and our most important contributions – a State of the Art paper, together with one current concepts article. All papers go through a rigorous peer review process, yet the average time to first decision for all papers is less than a month. From a readership perspective, we have witnessed increased page views, downloads and sessions. The word is getting out: our Journal provides a unique international perspective from experts and is highly regarded.

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suddenly. Allen was a major contributor to our Society in so many ways – he was a member since ISAKOS began, and he served on many committees. He was on the current Board of Directors at the time of his passing. Allen always contributed substance to everything he did, including his participation in ISAKOS. Typical for Allen, he was quick to support our Society and this Journal when it became possible to publish original research. Allen and his group of paediatric orthopaedic research associates quickly submitted several articles to JISAKOS on cruciate ligament reconstruction in the skeletally immature, 3 of which were accepted and are published in this issue. Along with an article by Dr. Freddie Fu, past president, and his associates on the effect of knee extension angle on ACL reconstruction, Eric Senorski contributes a quintessential ISAKOS collaboration on the effect of pre-operative knee laxity predicting outcome after ACL reconstruction with several authors who are active members in ISAKOS – Stefano Zaffagnini, program chair for the 2019 meeting, Ryosuke Kuroda, executive committee member, and Volker Musahl, chair of the scientific committee. Finally, this issue is rounded out by an article by Dr. David Parker (executive committee member), Dr. Myles Coolican and colleagues on high tibial osteotomy. These original research papers are all of the highest quality.

We expect our Journal to continue to expand, and we anticipate getting indexed in Scopus and Medline soon, with an impact factor to follow. These milestones will provide an objective measure of the exceptional quality of JISAKOS. We expect our Journal to help serve our Society members going forward, providing our members with information no other journal can provide – a truly worldwide perspective on all aspects of knee surgery, as well as other sports medicine related injuries and maladies.

As ISAKOS reinvests in supporting research as well as education, we further expect more original research to be published, both from within our Society and outside, including work from all over the world. We encourage orthopaedists throughout the world, including ISAKOS members, members of our partner societies, and other orthopaedists and researchers to submit their original research to JISAKOS, as it will truly provide an international exposure of your research.

Nick van Dijk, the JISAKOS editor in chief, and his team, including Leendert Blankevoort, the managing editor, have done a fantastic job getting JISAKOS off the ground and running in full stride. Along with the guidance of the Journal Advisory Group, led by John Bartlett, the Journal is on a solid path to increased recognition and presence in the crowded orthopaedic journal space. Our partners at BMJ continue to help us achieve our goal of a preeminent journal, worthy of our Society, and the goals set by our past presidents.

ISAKOS, as a society, also continues to grow and mature. After 23 years, ISAKOS has begun a search for a full-time executive director and full-time office with dedicated ISAKOS employees. These past 23 years we have been led, quite expertly, by Michele Johnson, as our executive director, and her staff at MCJ associates. Michele and her staff have skillfully helped ISAKOS form our identity, grow our membership, and achieve a sound financial position and stability. With Michele’s leadership, and with that of the past presidents, we have established our position as a worldwide leader in education and knowledge in orthopaedic sports medicine and knee surgery. This position is recognised by orthopaedists and societies around the world, as well as with our industry partners. This solid relationship has helped us achieve our mission and will continue to do so in the years ahead. With Michele’s help, the search committee and Tom Nelson, our consultant, will help us identify and hire our next executive director. The ability to have a full-time staff will allow us to continue to grow and meet the challenges ahead in education.

In addition to our crown jewel, the biennial meeting, we continue to publish numerous books and booklets and to support other society meetings and interim meetings and courses. We are branching out to holding meetings with our partner societies between the biennial meetings to reach people throughout the world with skills labs and didactic education, especially in places where it is difficult to organise a biennial meeting. With the introduction of original articles, JISAKOS is quickly growing to be another of our major endeavours that allows us to fulfil our educational mission and keep our members at the cutting edge.

I encourage you, our readers, to submit your original articles to JISAKOS. Encourage your local medical library to...
Editorial

carry this Journal. I further encourage you to participate in our Society, through committees, as well as potentially serving as a reviewer for our Journal.

These are moving times for ISAKOS and JISAKOS. We continue to expand. We are a dynamic society, which is important in these times of increasing legislation and regulation. The Journal and the Society are symbiotic – and the agility and growth of both are the key to our flourishing as we go forth.

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