

SURGERY FOCUS ISSUE –EDITORIAL

The current issue of Swasthya is a Surgery focus issue. Obviously, surgery is a broad speciality and there are many exciting developments in various surgical subspecialties. Though scalpel, forceps, haemostasis and wound closure form the essence of surgery, the way procedures are planned and performed is changing dramatically. Artificial Intelligence (AI), Virtual Reality (VR), Robotics, Navigation assistance, 3 D printing, minimally invasive surgery and other advances are making great strides. Hence it is important to keep abreast with recent technological advances in surgery along with the challenges posed by COVID19.

SWASTHYA

SURGERY

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I am thankful to eminent colleagues and surgeons who have spared their time and efforts to share their wisdom and research for the Surgery focus issue of Swasthya.

Robotics is becoming more popular and it's scope and indications are increasing. Mr Sinha reviews the role of robotics in Orthopaedics while Dr Nagaonkar reviews the scope, advantages and limitations of robotic surgery. Mr Bhattar and Mr Nambi Rajan provide broad overview of Robotics in Urology.

Prof Jayant Vaidya provides a commentary on breakthrough for breast cancer -benefits of IORT (Intraoperative Radiotherapy) based on his team's recent publication of a large clinical trial.

Mr Ramana Dhannapuneni introduces the concept of voluntary outsourcing of the NHS -paediatric cardiac surgery expertise worldwide and the noble work of Healing little hearts, performing over 2000 lifesaving cardiac surgeries for poor children.

Osteoarthritis is a common problem and Prof A A Shetty and Dr Shanmugasundaram discuss advances in joint preservation using stem cell and gene therapy -new frontiers in regenerative medicine.

Mr AK Tripathi discusses the outlook of plastic surgery in the 21st century including robotics, Artificial Intelligence, 3D printing etc.

Eminent US Ophthalmologist Dr Raju provides a short overview of presbyopia and treatment options.

Prof Joseph Dias, past President of the British Orthopaedic Association shares his expert overview on the evolution of Scaphoid fracture management and discusses the recent SWIFFT study published in Lancet

Prof. Audisio and colleagues from SIOG write about guidelines for cancer care for the elderly during the current COVID19 pandemic. This is timely and relevant as the collateral damage from COVID19 impact on cancer and other NCDs is becoming apparent.

I am thankful to the Managing editor Mr Buddhdev Pandya and Mr Amit Sinha for their time and help in getting quality authors to contribute to this surgery focus issue.

In summary we are delighted to edit and present the varied and interesting surgical topics. I hope that the wider readership of Swasthya will appreciate that, quality and sharing knowledge are our core value.

CR Chandrasekar