New look Indian journal of plastic surgery

Sir,

It was with great surprise and pleasure that I received the "upgraded" edition of the Indian Journal of Plastic Surgery. When I looked at it, it seemed like a plastic surgery journal of some considerable standing. As I went through the published papers, I was even more impressed that this was the case. I think that the Indian Association now has a journal which is a cause for pride, rather than something for which one always makes excuses.

The journal is like the APSICON Meeting; it goes from strength to strength because of the enthusiasm of the wonderful group of young, and not so young, Indian plastic surgeons who are totally up-to-date in their knowledge. They are experimenting with new ideas and some are beginning to be involved in research projects. It is this wave of enthusiasm which will continue to produce improvement at the APSICON Meetings and consequently in the journal content.

Mukund Thatte and his Advisory Board have much to be proud of. What I particularly liked when I read over the names in the various Boards and Committees, it is mainly an array of the young and upcoming plastic surgeons, many of whom have trained elsewhere, together with the trustees who form a wonderful foundation for this whole edifice.

I am honored to be a member of the Association of Plastic Surgeons of India, and I am now proud and pleased to have such a good publication representing the Association. I would ask all of those who are young, and not so young, to support the journal wholeheartedly and to submit their articles and to be proud when they have them published. A journal is like an exotic and precious plant, it requires constant attention by the Editor and it needs to be maintained in its best possible condition by fertilization with ideas, opinions, experimental work, and clinical studies mainly from within India but one would hope also from those who love everything that India has to offer and who hold Indian plastic surgery in high regard.

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Proboscis lateralis: Comments

Sir

I have read article by Bhavsar et al with considerable interest. 1 Regarding the dilatation of the central canal of the proboscis which we do before starting reconstruction, you expressed some reservations that, "repeated dilatation at regular intervals, the proboscis will loose its suppleness".

I would like to point out that we do a "rapid"2 dilatation method each lasting about one minute. This is done daily and we accomplish it in one week. The nearest one can get to the technique is to watch our gynaecology colleague do a D & C procedure. The cervix uteri of a nulliparous patient is like the proboscis with its central canal. We increase the size of the Hegar dilator by 2 mm diameter each time we dilate. The dilatation is spread over a week for fear of tearing the delicate tissues of the child. Once the series of dilations is completed, the proboscis is split longitudinally from its root to the rim and it is attached to the contralateral hemi-nose. After this rapid dilatation
to Hegar size 8 (8 mm) using the algebra formula \((2 \pi r)\). We then proceed with the re-construction. I do not expect to get changes in the tissue consistency with this method of dilatation.

I consider the dilatation of the proboscis an important step in the reconstruction of the absent hemi-nose.

A simple method of measuring volume in lymphedema patients: Additional comments

Sir,

1. With reference to our article “A simple method of measuring volume in lymphedema patients” published in vol. 36, issue 1, I would like to mention that the old Aluminum Drum was designed by Dr. C. V. Mehendale of our department in early 70’s.

2. With reference to our article “Simple, effective replacement for esmarch bandage” published in Vol. 36, issue 1, we would like to point out that there is a printing error. ‘Veas bandage’ should be read as ‘Vegas bandage’. Also, I would like to mention that its use as pressure bandage in lymphedema patients was started by Dr. S. R. Tambwekar of our department.

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Events

15th International Congress on Vascular Anomalies

22 – 25 February 2004 Duxton Hotel, Wellington, New Zealand

Congress President: Dr Swee Tan, PhD

This biennial congress that occurs every two years, provides an opportunity to discuss and learn in a plenary forum, of the latest treatment, research, and controversies in Vascula Anomalies. The theme of the congress is Concept – Classification – Cure, and English is the language of the Congress.

A call for papers has been made and appropriate forms are available on-line from the website. Abstracts must be returned by 1 August 2003. Please complete the Abstract form and/or the Registration form from the conference website at www.conferencebrokers.co.nz/issva.htm or the Expression of Interest form to receive the Congress Registration information brochure which is now available. Please include you email address as frequent updates will be sent by this medium.

Further Information contact:

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