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*#stayhealthy*

## Original Articles

Prevalence of Primary Antibody Deficiencies  
*Özel Yürüker, Burçin Şanlıdağ, Nerin Nadir Bahçeciler*

Mostly Cited Articles in Tinnitus Research  
*Seyit Mehmet Ceylan*

Monitoring & Counseling after Quit Smoking  
*Aslı Güleşen, Tülay Yavan, Hatice Bebiş*

Delirium in the Orthopedics Clinic  
*Özhan Pazarıcı, Seyran Kılınc, Fatma Bekmez, Burhanettin Çiğdem, Zekeriya Öztumur*

Clinical Analysis of Critically Ill Patients  
*Atalay Arkan, Nedim Çakır, Kaya Süer, İlker Gelişen, Selin Bardak-Özdemir, İlker Etikan*

Ovarian Tumors: Malignant or Borderline?  
*Gulin Feykan Yegin, Emre Erdem Tas, Gökhan Kılıc, Huseyin Levent Keskin, Ayse Filiz Yavuz*

Childhood and Adolescence Vitiligo  
*Nermin Karaosmanoğlu, Pinar Özdemir Çetinkaya, İşıl Göğem İmren, Esra Kıratlı Nalbant, Engin Karaaslan*

Comparison of PRP and HA  
*Yunus Emre Bektaş, Ortaç Güran, Nihat Demir Demirkıran, Ramadan Ozmanevra*

Knowledge and View on Breast Milk Banking  
*Reyyan Gürel, Ayten Şentürk Erenel*

A Comparative Study on the Effect of Using Three Maternal Positions on Postpartum Bleeding  
*Mehri Rezaie, Sheida Dakhesh, Leila Kalavani, Mahboubeh Valiani*

Esophageal Cancer Surgery  
*Orçun Yalav, Uğur Topal, Burak Yavuz, Kubilay Dalcı*

Nesfatin-I and Exercise  
*Şükran Arıkan*

Caring Nurse-Patient Interaction  
*Hülya Fırat Kılıç, Bahar Ak*

Psychosocial Effects of Genital HPV Infection  
*Ali Şahan, Nermin Karaosmanoğlu, Erol Koç*

## Review

Current Approaches with Orthopaedic Drills  
*Yunis Torun, Özhan Pazarıcı, Ahmet Öztürk*

## Letter to the Editor

Burning questions of treating addiction in Middle Europe – The German situation  
*Tamás Józsa*



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## Aims and Scope

Cyprus Journal of Medical Sciences (Cyprus J Med Sci) is the scientific, peer reviewed, open access international publication organ of Cyprus Turkish Medical Association. The journal is published three times a year, in April, August, and December. As of 2020, the journal has become a quarterly publication, publishing in March, June, September, and December. The journal's publication language is English.

The aim of the journal is to publish original research papers of the highest scientific and clinical value in all medical fields. Cyprus Journal of Medical Sciences also publishes reviews, rare case report and letters to the editors.

The target audience of the journal includes healthcare professionals physicians, and researchers who are interested or working in in all fields of medicine.

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## Instruction to Authors

Cyprus Journal of Medical Sciences (Cyprus J Med Sci) is the scientific, peer-reviewed, open access international publication organ of Cyprus Turkish Medical Association. The journal is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December. The journal's publication language is English.

The aim of the journal is to publish original research papers of the highest scientific and clinical value in all medical fields. Cyprus Journal of Medical Sciences also publishes reviews, rare case report and letters to the editors.

The target audience of the journal includes healthcare professionals physicians, and researchers who are interested or working in in all fields of medicine.

### Editorial And Publication Process

The editorial and publication processes of the journal are shaped in accordance with the guidelines of the International Council of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), the World Association of Medical Editors (WAME), the Council of Science Editors (CSE), the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), the European Association of Science Editors (EASE), and National Information Standards Organization (NISO). The journal conforms to the Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing ([doaj.org/bestpractice](http://doaj.org/bestpractice)).

Originality, high scientific quality, and citation potential are the most important criteria for a manuscript to be accepted for publication. Manuscripts submitted for evaluation should not

have been previously presented or already published in an electronic or printed medium. The journal should be informed of manuscripts that have been submitted to another journal for evaluation and rejected for publication. The submission of previous reviewer reports will expedite the evaluation process. Manuscripts that have been presented in a meeting should be submitted with detailed information on the organization, including the name, date, and location of the organization.

### Peer Review Process

Manuscripts submitted to Cyprus Journal of Medical Sciences will go through a double-blind peer-review process. Each submission will be reviewed by at least two external, independent peer reviewers who are experts in their fields in order to ensure an unbiased evaluation process. The editorial board will invite an external and independent editor to manage the evaluation processes of manuscripts submitted by editors or by the editorial board members of the journal. The Editor in Chief is the final authority in the decision-making process for all submissions.

### Ethical Procedures

An approval of research protocols by the Ethics Committee in accordance with international agreements (World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki "Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects," amended in October 2013, [www.wma.net](http://www.wma.net)) is required for experimental, clinical, and drug studies and for some case reports. If required, ethics committee re-

ports or an equivalent official document will be requested from the authors. For manuscripts concerning experimental research on humans, a statement should be included that shows that written informed consent of patients and volunteers was obtained following a detailed explanation of the procedures that they may undergo. For studies carried out on animals, the measures taken to prevent pain and suffering of the animals should be stated clearly. Information on patient consent, the name of the ethics committee, and the ethics committee approval number should also be stated in the Materials and Methods section of the manuscript. It is the authors' responsibility to protect the patients' anonymity carefully.

For photographs that may reveal the identity of the patients, signed releases of the patient or their legal representative should be enclosed, and the publication approval must be provided in the Materials and Methods section.

### Plagiarism

Cyprus Journal of Medical Sciences is extremely sensitive about plagiarism. All submissions are screened by a similarity detection software (iThenticate by CrossCheck) at any point during the peer-review and/or production process. Even if you are the author of the phrases or sentences, the text should not have unacceptable similarity with the previously published data.

When you are discussing others' (or your own) previous work, please make sure that you cite the material correctly in every instance.



Official journal of  
Cyprus Turkish Medical Association

# CYPRUS JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

In the event of alleged or suspected research misconduct, e.g., plagiarism, citation manipulation, and data falsification/fabrication, the Editorial Board will follow and act following COPE guidelines.

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Each person listed as an author should fulfill the authorship criteria recommended by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE - [www.icmje.org](http://www.icmje.org)). The ICMJE recommends that authorship is based on the following four criteria:

1. Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND
2. Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND
3. Final approval of the version to be published; AND
4. Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

In addition to being accountable for the parts of the work he/she has done, an author should be able to identify which co-authors are responsible for specific other parts of the work. Also, authors should have confidence in the integrity of the contributions of their co-authors.

All those designated as authors should meet all four criteria for authorship, and all who meet the four criteria should be identified as authors. Those who do not meet all four criteria should be

acknowledged in the title page of the manuscript.

Cyprus Journal of Medical Sciences requires corresponding authors to submit a signed and scanned version of the Copyright Agreement and Acknowledgement of Authorship form (available for download [www.cyprus-jmedsci.com](http://www.cyprus-jmedsci.com)) during the initial submission process to act appropriately on authorship rights and to prevent ghost or honorary authorship. If the editorial board suspects a case of "gift authorship," the submission will be rejected without further review. As part of the submission of the manuscript, the corresponding author should also send a short statement declaring that he/she accepts to undertake all the responsibility for authorship during the submission and review stages of the manuscript.

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Official journal of  
Cyprus Turkish Medical Association

# CYPRUS JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

## Manuscript Preparation

The manuscripts should be prepared in accordance with ICMJE-Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals (updated in December 2019 - <http://www.icmje.org/icmje-recommendations.pdf>). Authors are required to prepare manuscripts in accordance with the CONSORT guidelines for randomized research studies, STROBE guidelines for observational original research studies, STARD guidelines for studies on diagnostic accuracy, PRISMA guidelines for systematic reviews and meta-analysis, ARRIVE guidelines for experimental animal studies, and TREND guidelines for non-randomized public behavior.

Manuscripts can only be submitted through the journal's online manuscript submission and evaluation system, available at [www.cyprusjmedsci.com](http://www.cyprusjmedsci.com). Manuscripts submitted via any other medium and submissions by anyone other than one of the authors will not be evaluated.

Manuscripts submitted to the journal will first go through a technical evaluation process where the editorial office staff will ensure that the manuscript has been prepared and submitted in accordance with the journal's guidelines. Submissions that do not conform to the journal's guidelines will be returned to the submitting author with technical correction requests.

Authors are required to submit the following:

- Copyright Agreement and Acknowledgement of Authorship Form, and

- ICMJE Potential Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form (should be filled in by all contributing authors) during the initial submission. These forms are available for download at [www.cyprusjmedsci.com](http://www.cyprusjmedsci.com).

## Preparation of the Manuscript

**Title page:** A separate title page should be submitted with all submissions and this page should include:

- The full title of the manuscript as well as a short title (running head) of no more than 50 characters,
- Name(s), affiliations, highest academic degree(s), and ORCID IDs of the author(s),
- Grant information and detailed information on the other sources of support,
- Name, address, telephone (including the mobile phone number), and email address of the corresponding author,
- Acknowledgment of the individuals who contributed to the preparation of the manuscript but who do not fulfill the authorship criteria.

**Abstract:** An abstract should be submitted with all submissions except for Letters to the Editor. The abstract of Original Articles should be structured with subheadings (Background/Aims, Material and Methods, Results and Conclusion). Please check Table I below for word count specifications.

**Keywords:** Each submission must be accompanied by a minimum of three to a maximum of five keywords for subject indexing at the end of the abstract. The keywords should be listed in full without abbreviations. The keywords should be selected from the National Library of Medicine, Med-

ical Subject Headings database (<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/MBrowser.html>).

**Main Points:** All submissions except letters to the editor should be accompanied by 3 to 5 "main points" which should emphasize the most noteworthy results of the study and underline the principle message that is addressed to the reader. This section should be structured as itemized to give a general overview of the article. Since "Main Points" targeting the experts and specialists of the field, each item should be written as plain and straightforward as possible.

## Manuscript Types

**Original Articles:** This is the most important type of article since it provides new information based on original research. Acceptance of original papers will be based upon the originality and importance of the investigation. The main text of original articles should be structured with Introduction, Material and Methods, Results, and Discussion subheadings. An original article can be signed by maximum 6 authors unless it is a multi-center study or that it required extensive labour. Please check Table I for the limitations for Original Articles.

## Clinical Trials

Cyprus Journal of Medical Sciences adopts the ICMJE's clinical trial registration policy, which requires that clinical trials must be registered in a publicly accessible registry that is a primary register of the WHO International Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP) or in ClinicalTrials.gov.

Instructions for the clinical trials are listed below.



Official journal of  
Cyprus Turkish Medical Association

# CYPRUS JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

- Clinical trial registry is only required for the prospective research projects that study the relationship between a health-related intervention and an outcome by assigning people.
- To have their manuscript evaluated in the journal, author should register their research to a public registry at or before the time of first patient enrollment.
- Based on most up to date ICMJE recommendations, Cyprus Journal of Medical Sciences accepts public registries that include minimum acceptable 24-item trial registration dataset.
- Authors are required to state a data sharing plan for the clinical trial registration. Please see details under "Data Sharing" section.
- For further details, please check ICMJE Clinical Trial Policy at <http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/publishing-and-editorial-issues/clinical-trial-registration.html>

## Data Sharing

As of 1 January 2019, a data sharing statement is required for the registration of clinical trials. Authors are required to provide a data sharing statement for the articles that reports the results of a clinical trial. The data sharing statement should indicate the items below according to the ICMJE data sharing policy:

- Whether individual deidentified participant data will be shared
- What data in particular will be shared
- Whether additional, related documents will be available
- When the data will be available and for how long
- By what access criteria will be shared

Authors are recommended to check the ICMJE data sharing examples at <http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/publishing-and-editorial-issues/clinical-trial-registration.html>

While submitting a clinical trial to Cyprus Journal of Medical Sciences;

- Authors are required to make registration to a publicly accessible registry according to ICMJE recommendations and the instructions above.
- The name of the registry and the registration number should be provided in the Title Page during the initial submission.
- Data sharing statement should also be stated in the Title Page even the authors do not plan to share it.

Clinical trial and data sharing policy of the journal will be valid for the articles submitted from 1 February 2020.

Statistical analysis to support conclusions is usually necessary.

Statistical analyses must be conducted in accordance with international statistical reporting standards (Altman DG, Gore SM, Gardner MJ, Pocock SJ. Statistical guidelines for contributors to medical journals. *Br Med J* 1983; 7; 1489-93). Information on statistical analyses should be provided with a separate subheading under the Materials and Methods section and the statistical software that was used during the process must be specified.

Units should be prepared in accordance with the International System of Units (SI).

**Editorial Comments:** Invited brief editorial comments on selected articles are published in The Cyprus Journal of Medical Sciences. Editorials should not be longer than 1000 words excluding references. Editorial comments aim to provide a brief critical commentary by reviewers with expertise or with high reputation in the topic of the research article published in the journal. Authors are selected and invited by the journal to provide such comments. Abstract, Keywords, and Tables, Figures, Images, and other media are not included.

**Review Articles:** Reviews prepared by authors who have extensive knowledge on a particular field and whose scientific background has been translated into a high volume of publications

| Type of manuscript   | Word limit | Abstract word limit | Reference limit | Table limit | Figure limit             |
|----------------------|------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Original Article     | 4000       | 250<br>(Structured) | 35              | 6           | 5 or total of 10 images  |
| Review Article       | 5000       | 250                 | 50              | 6           | 10 or total of 15 images |
| Case Report          | 1200       | 200                 | 15              | No tables   | 4 or total of 8 images   |
| Letter to the Editor | 400        | No abstract         | 5               | No tables   | No media                 |



Official journal of  
Cyprus Turkish Medical Association

# CYPRUS JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

with a high citation potential are welcomed. These authors may even be invited by the journal. Reviews should describe, discuss, and evaluate the current level of knowledge of a topic in clinical practice and should guide future studies. The subheadings of the review articles should be planned by the authors. However, each review article should include an "Introduction" and a "Conclusion" section. Please check Table I for the limitations for Review Articles.

**Case Reports:** There is limited space for case reports in the journal and reports on rare cases or conditions that constitute challenges in diagnosis and treatment, those offering new therapies or revealing knowledge not included in the literature, and interesting and educative case reports are accepted for publication. The text should include Introduction, Case Presentation, and Discussion with an unstructured abstract. Please check Table I for the limitations for Case Reports.

**Letters to the Editor:** This type of manuscript discusses important parts, overlooked aspects, or lacking parts of a previously published article. Articles on subjects within the scope of the journal that might attract the readers' attention, particularly educative cases, may also be submitted in the form of a "Letter to the Editor." Readers can also present their comments on the published manuscripts in the form of a "Letter to the Editor." Abstract, Keywords, and Tables, Figures, Images, and other media should not be included. The text should be unstructured. The manuscript that is being commented on must be properly cited within this manuscript.

## Tables

Tables should be included in the main document, presented after the reference list, and they should be numbered consecutively in the order they are referred to within the main text. A descriptive title must be placed above the tables. Abbreviations used in the tables should be defined below the tables by footnotes (even if they are defined within the main text). Tables should be created using the "insert table" command of the word processing software and they should be arranged clearly to provide easy reading. Data presented in the tables should not be a repetition of the data presented within the main text but should be supporting the main text.

## Figures and Figure Legends

Figures, graphics, and photographs should be submitted as separate files (in TIFF or JPEG format) through the submission system. The files should not be embedded in a Word document or the main document. When there are figure subunits, the subunits should not be merged to form a single image. Each subunit should be submitted separately through the submission system. Images should not be labeled (a, b, c, etc.) to indicate figure subunits. Thick and thin arrows, arrowheads, stars, asterisks, and similar marks can be used on the images to support figure legends. Like the rest of the submission, the figures too should be blind. Any information within the images that may indicate an individual or institution should be blinded. The minimum resolution of each submitted figure should be 300 DPI. To prevent delays in the evaluation process, all submitted figures should be clear in resolution and

large in size (minimum dimensions: 100 × 100 mm). Figure legends should be listed at the end of the main document.

All acronyms and abbreviations used in the manuscript should be defined at first use, both in the abstract and in the main text. The abbreviation should be provided in parentheses following the definition.

When a drug, product, hardware, or software program is mentioned within the main text, product information, including the name of the product, the producer of the product, and city and the country of the company (including the state if in USA), should be provided in parentheses in the following format: "Discovery St PET/CT scanner (General Electric, Milwaukee, WI, USA)"

All references, tables, and figures should be referred to within the main text, and they should be numbered consecutively in the order they are referred to within the main text.

Limitations, drawbacks, and the shortcomings of original articles should be mentioned in the Discussion section before the conclusion paragraph.

## References

Both in-text citations and the references must be prepared according to the Vancouver style. While citing publications, preference should be given to the latest, most up-to-date publications. Authors are responsible for the accuracy of references. If an ahead-of-print publication is cited, the DOI number should be provided. Journal titles should be abbreviated in accordance with



Official journal of  
Cyprus Turkish Medical Association

# CYPRUS JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

the journal abbreviations in Index Medicus/MEDLINE/PubMed. When there are six or fewer authors, all authors should be listed. If there are seven or more authors, the first six authors should be listed followed by "et al." In the main text of the manuscript, references should be cited using Arabic numbers in parentheses. The reference styles for different types of publications are presented in the following examples.

**Journal Article:** Yazıcı A. The efficacy of endoscopic ventilation tube insertion in pediatric populations. *Cyprus J Med Sci* 2019; 4(2): 73-6.

**Book Section:** Suh KN, Keystone JS. Malaria and babesiosis. Gorbach SL, Barlett JG, Blacklow NR, editors. *Infectious Diseases*. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams; 2004.p.2290-308.

**Books with a Single Author:** Sweetman SC. *Martindale the complete drug reference*. 34th ed. London: Pharmaceutical Press; 2005.

**Editor(s) as Author:** Huizing EH, de Groot JAM, editors. *Functional reconstructive nasal surgery*. Stuttgart-New York: Thieme; 2003.

**Conference Proceedings:** Bengis-son S. Sothemin BG. Enforcement of data protection, privacy and security in medical informatics. In: Lun KC, Degoulet P, Piemme TE, Rienhoff O, editors. *MEDINFO 92*.

Proceedings of the 7th World Congress on Medical Informatics; 1992 Sept 6-10; Geneva, Switzerland. Amsterdam: North-Holland; 1992. pp.1561-5.

**Scientific or Technical Report:** Cusick M, Chew EY, Hoogwerf B, Agrón E, Wu L, Lindley A, et al. Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study Research Group. Risk factors for renal replacement therapy in the Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS), Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study Kidney Int: 2004. Report No: 26.

**Thesis:** Yılmaz B. Ankara Üniversitesi'ndeki öğrencilerin beslenme durumları, fiziksel aktiviteleri ve beden kitle indeksleri kan lipidleri arasındaki ilişkiler. H.Ü. Sağlık Bilimleri Enstitüsü, Doktora Tezi. 2007.

**Manuscripts Accepted for Publication, Not Published Yet:** Slots J. The microflora of black stain on human primary teeth. *Scand J Dent Res*. 1974.

**Epub Ahead of Print Articles:** Cai L, Yeh BM, Westphalen AC, Roberts JP, Wang ZJ. Adult living donor liver imaging. *Diagn Interv Radiol*. 2016 Feb 24. doi: 10.5152/dir.2016.15323. [Epub ahead of print].

**Manuscripts Published in Electronic Format:** Morse SS. Factors in the emergence of infectious diseases. *Emerg Infect Dis* (serial

online) 1995 Jan-Mar (cited 1996 June 5): 1(1): (24 screens). Available from: URL: [http:// www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/cid.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/cid.htm).

## Revisions

When submitting a revised version of a paper, the author must submit a detailed "Response to the reviewers" that states point by point how each issue raised by the reviewers has been covered and where it can be found (each reviewer's comment, followed by the author's reply and line numbers where the changes have been made) as well as an annotated copy of the main document. Revised manuscripts must be submitted within 30 days from the date of the decision letter. If the revised version of the manuscript is not submitted within the allocated time, the revision option may be canceled. If the submitting author(s) believe that additional time is required, they should request this extension before the initial 30-day period is over.

Accepted manuscripts are copy-edited for grammar, punctuation, and format. Once the publication process of a manuscript is completed, it is published online on the journal's webpage as an ahead-of-print publication before it is included in its scheduled issue. A PDF proof of the accepted manuscript is sent to the corresponding author and their publication approval is requested within 2 days of their receipt of the proof.





Official journal of  
Cyprus Turkish Medical Association

# CYPRUS JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

## Contents

### Original Articles

- 1 The Prevalence and Patient Characteristics of Primary Antibody Deficiencies in a Tertiary Care Setting in North Cyprus  
Özel Yürüker, Burçin Şanlıdağ, Nerin Nadir Bahçeciler
- 7 Top 100-Cited Articles in Tinnitus: A Bibliometric Analysis  
Seyit Mehmet Ceylan
- 18 Determining the Effects of the Monitoring and Counseling in Addition to Standard Monitoring on the Abstinence after Quit Smoking: A Randomized Controlled Study  
Aslı Güleşen, Tülay Yavan, Hatice Bebiş
- 26 Delirium Awareness and Treatment Approach in Orthopedics Clinic  
Özhan Pazarıcı, Seyran Kılınc, Fatma Bekmez, Burhanettin Çiğdem, Zekeriya Öztumur
- 31 Demographic and Clinical Analysis and Outcome of Critically Ill Patients in a Northern Cyprus Hospital  
Atalay Arkan, Nedim Çakır, Kaya Süer, İlker Gelişen, Selin Bardak-Özcem, İlker Etikan
- 36 Discriminating Borderline Ovarian Tumors from Ovarian Cancer: Focus on Systemic Inflammatory Response Markers  
Gulin Feykan Yegin, Emre Erdem Tas, Gökhan Kılıc, Huseyin Levent Keskin, Ayse Filiz Yavuz
- 41 Childhood and Adolescence Vitiligo: Clinicoepidemiological Profile and Its Impact on Quality of Life  
Nermin Karaosmanoğlu, Pınar Özdemir Çetinkaya, Işıl Göğem İmren, Esra Kıratlı Nalbant, Engin Karaaslan
- 47 Comparison of Platelet-Rich Plasma and Hyaluronic Acid for Treatment of Early Stage Gonarthrosis  
Yunus Emre Bektaş, Ortaç Güran, Nihat Demir Demirkıran, Ramadan Ozmanevra
- 51 Knowledge and View of Mothers Whose Babies in Newborn Intensive Care Units About Breast Milk Banking in Turkey  
Reyyan Güre, Ayten Şentürk Erene
- 57 A Comparative Study on the Effect of Using Three Maternal Positions on Postpartum Bleeding, Perineum Status and Some of the Birth Outcomes During Latent and Active phase of the Second Stage of Labor  
Mehri Rezaie, Sheida Dakhesh, Leila Kalavani, Mahboubeh Valiani
- 66 Comparison of Transhiatal and Transthoracic Approaches in Esophageal Cancer Surgery  
Orçun Yalav, Uğur Topal, Burak Yavuz, Kubilay Dalcı



Official journal of  
Cyprus Turkish Medical Association

# CYPRUS JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

---

77 Effects of Acute and Chronic Exercises on Plasma Nesfatin-I Levels in Young Adults  
Şükran Arıkan

---

81 Attitudes and Behaviors of Nursing Students towards Caring Nurse-Patient Interaction  
Hülya Fırat Kılıç, Bahar Ak

---

88 Evaluation of the Psychosocial Effects of Long-Term Genital HPV Infection  
Ali Şahan, Nermin Karaosmanoğlu, Erol Koç

Review

---

93 Current Approaches to Bone-Drilling Procedures with Orthopedic Drills  
Yunis Torun, Özhan Pazarıcı, Ahmet Öztürk

Letter to the Editor

---

99 Burning Questions of Treating Addiction in Middle Europe – The German situation  
Tamás Józsa



Official journal of  
Cyprus Turkish Medical Association

# CYPRUS JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

## Editorial



Dear readers,

I don't know how to begin with, but I can tell that we are very sad and sorry for those that are suffering of those who died from the new Coronavirus Covid-19 infection all over the world. We are also very sorry for our colleagues who lost their lives on duty. For us, they are heroes. While I am writing this, the number of infected people has come close to 800.000, and the death toll has risen to 38.000. As we also feel in our country, there is a danger of shortages of medical supplies. It could be disastrous for the economy, which has already been affected.

We can imagine from this pandemic that in the future, the diseases that will threaten people's health very seriously will be infectious diseases. All countries must have gotten a lesson from this outbreak, and they will probably design their health systems and strategies according to this.

Cyprus Journal of Medical Sciences, like all other journals, will be very welcome to publish any type of manuscripts related to the Covid-19 infectious disease.

We have to remember that apart from fighting the disease, we should sit and think where we made wrong. Hopefully, we will recover soon, but if we don't change ourselves and our strategies of life, this might recur. Solidarity is important. Peace is important. Respect for nature, animals, and plants is important. They have the same rights as us to live in this world.

As the Editor-in-Chief of the Cyprus Journal of Medical Sciences, I wish a healthier and peaceful life for everyone. I hope that all countries recover soon. I also wish good luck to my colleagues, who are working to find a vaccine or medicine for the treatment of the disease.

Best regards,

Sonuç Büyük  
Editor-in-Chief