

Foreword

It is an honor to write a foreword for the Journal of Pediatric Intensive Care. The field of pediatric intensive care has continued to expand the scope of care since its inception in the 1960's. This expansion has become an international phenomenon with pediatric intensivists serving a critical role in the care of children worldwide. Despite the growth in the field of pediatric intensive care, there are still limited specific avenues for publication of relevant research in this field. The Journal of Pediatric Intensive Care is an international journal published as the official journal of the Society of Child Science of Turkiye that endeavors to add to the limited available publications for our specialty. The journal has selected an impressive diverse international group of pediatric intensive care specialists to assist the journal as editors and on the editorial board. This journal is essential because it will serve as a source for the important discussion of how current advances in the field of pediatric intensive care can be applied globally. Even though pediatric intensive care has been a technology driven specialty, improved patient care does not require the latest and most expensive technologies. Worldwide, the practice of intensive care is under increasing pressure to "do more for less" and this creates a unique opportunity for intensivists to learn from each other on how they can optimize limited resources in enhancing the care of critically ill children.

It has been recognized that an important component to establishing a medical specialty is its development of a fund of knowledge that is unique to its practice. Research is the foundation for creating and building upon the fund of knowledge of any specialty. Before we can integrate the knowledge derived from research, it has to be critically peer-reviewed and then disseminated amongst

those who practice the specialty. We must define our practice and continue to strive to understand the pathophysiology of the diseases that are exclusive to our specialty. Pediatric intensive care is unique in contrast to the practice of our adult colleagues. First, pediatric patients reside within a developmental spectrum with unique diseases and specific physiologic responses to those diseases. Second, in most institutions the pediatric intensivist serves as the sole manager of the intensive care resources and patient care. This is not to say that there is not an essential team of medical professionals for the care of these patients, but in contrast to our adult colleagues, the pediatric intensivist serves as director of this team. Again, a journal designed to specifically address the practice of our specialty is essential to its growth and development.

In future issues, we encourage pediatric intensivists from around the world to submit their experiences in improving patient care from their countries including original research and reviews. Success of endeavors such as these requires common goals and beliefs. It was once said, "Real success is finding your lifework in the work that you love" (David McCullough). This could easily be applied to anyone who has chosen pediatric intensive care as his or her chosen specialty. However, the key to improve care of all of our patients will require open, frank discussions for which the Journal of Pediatric Intensive Care offers a true international forum for this dialogue.

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