The sway of interventions today...

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Dear colleagues,

The current goal of the Indian Journal of Radiology and Imaging (IJRI) would be to stimulate minds to write, young and old alike. If one thinks about it initially, it is not so difficult to get started and get on with it. The initial few months have witnessed 3–4 significantly plagiarized articles, which have been rejected outright; however, overall, about 30–40% of the articles still do have a few paragraphs “lifted” from sources without modification where we inform the authors to rephrase in their own words and resubmit. The article format is an important aspect as baseline to go ahead and write – a good amount of clarity is needed here. Images submitted along with the articles need to be cropped properly hiding all identifiers (name, institution, center, etc.) with proper annotations in black and white only – we still find this issue in about 20% of the articles.

The May issue is an ensemble of Vascular and Interventional radiology articles with others. The constantly changing edifice of medicine is beset with challenges in early diagnosis and treatment, but for a change, from the erstwhile diagnosticians to interventionists! The rapid strides of Interventional Radiology in Oncology have added a unique dimension to healthcare, with more and more usage of image-guidance for improvement of morbidity and mortality. As part of chemotherapy regime, chemoports are inserted by surgeons, still at many institutes. Image-guided chemoport insertion not only reduces the periprocedural morbidity, but it also gives ideal placement for drug-delivery with high degree of consistency. The emerging technique of radiofrequency ablation (USG as well as CT-guided) in unresectable hepatocellular carcinoma is well-illustrated. One of the articles deals with endovascular treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma with drug eluting microparticles with MDCT response evaluation to treatment. An interesting aspect of day-to-day means of achieving hemostasis postantegrade/retrograde puncture for diagnostic and percutaneous intervention procedures with a vascular closure device is discussed. Renal arteriovenous fistulas continue to dodege treatments options with a novel technique of coiling feeding segmental artery using detachable coils being described in one of the articles.

Neuroradiology subsection deals with two articles, one dealing with comprehensive MRI imaging of neuroenteric cysts and the other dealing with acute Wallerian degeneration following basilar thrombosis. The emergent technique of MDCT esophagogram in demonstrating esophagobronchial fistulae is well-portrayed, in one of the articles. Improvisation in MR enterography which has the potential to detect extra-luminal changes, including detection of abscesses and fistulae in children promises to be a superior alternative to barium studies, in addition to lack of radiation, as highlighted in one of the articles.

Amidst the scorching heat of May, the time in the interim had been a phase of very many interesting set of experiences, one among them being my visit to Kathmandu (Nepal), in May 2013, to orient Radiology Technicians in recent advances, from in and around the area. I must admit that the keen interest with which everyone attended and interacted during the course, goes on to state the role of Radiologists in orienting these technicians from time to time, in keeping them with the latest. Although we are much adept in lecturing an august audience of radiologists, seldom do we come across in sharing our experiences with the sessions that involve the technicians. Time is also extremely ripe to earmark specific sessions for them, during the annual conferences. Steps such as these would help them be with us, on the same wave length, as regard to the technical finesse and newer developments in the area concerned. It is time to take a halt and examine where we are and how we move forward, from here on.

Another very interesting development, which has been slowly garnering attention and gaining momentum, is the suo motto request being evinced from our fellow colleagues, which is to play the role of a Guest Editor in our journal, is a very welcome move. While, on the short run, we would be witnessing focused sections being edited by these colleagues, on the long run, we can boast of an excellent base of peers reviewers and section editors who can help
the Editorial team, on a larger front. The team would be more than pleased to welcome such requests. Our endeavor would be to accommodate them, at the appropriate time and space. One of the most important aspects of issues being edited by a Guest Editor is to ensure that we are witness to the spectacular quality in the area of their expertise, since, these colleagues focus on these aspects, day in and day out.

Lastly, before I take leave, may I request you to pen your thoughts for meaningful feedback or implementable inputs. Do write to us, as to what would you like to feature in our journal at editor@ijri.org.