Editorial

I am delighted to take over the helm of *Pediatric Neurosurgery* as its editor-in-chief from January 2021. It is a great honor to be following in the footsteps of giants in our field, such as Bruce Hendrick, Fred Epstein, Donald Reigel, and my own mentor, David McLone. I am assuming this responsibility from Prof. Jogi Pattisapu, who graciously stepped in after the untimely passing of our dear friend and colleague, Dr. Timothy George. We are grateful to Prof. Pattisapu and the editorial board for their efforts through December 2020.

I would also like to welcome and thank our new editorial board members, who will share the critical responsibility of reviewing submitted articles for publication. They are the real backbone of this worthy endeavor, giving their expert opinion on originality, accuracy, appropriateness, completeness of references, and priority for publication.

As I look forward to the next three years, I can't help but notice significant changes in our field. In a year marked by global upheaval, we face tidal shifts in the care of patients with neurological and neurosurgical diseases. Healthcare stakeholders are implementing payment reforms such as value-based payments, while technology-enabled patient engagement strategies are increasing patients' financial independence regarding their healthcare decisions. In tandem with this, increasingly detailed population health management data is being used by government agencies to identify people's healthcare needs and guide policy.

In concert with these shifts, we now have artificial intelligence and the Internet of Medical Things, which will help streamline healthcare delivery and provide tools to improve the quality of care delivered. I would be remiss in not mentioning the remarkable advances in imaging, biomedical sciences, and surgical technology, all creating unprecedented opportunities to provide care in a way that we could have hardly imagined a decade ago. For instance, the number of gene therapy and CAR-T trials in the United States has jumped threefold and tenfold, respectively, in the past decade.

While pediatric neurosurgery remains a relatively small field, its impact on the lives of patients and their families remains immense. *Pediatric Neurosurgery* has been a great partner for our specialty, serving as a focused, thought-provoking, and independent resource for crucial new information, research discoveries, and observations in neurosurgery, neurology, neuroradiology, and neuropathology.

As the editorial team, we will all be working to deliver a journal that seeks to present innovative clinical and laboratory studies, intriguing technological updates, and topical debate on our readers' areas of interest. We hope to strike a new chord with a fresher, more modern tone, worthy of our readers' attention.

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