



TURKISH JOURNAL OF UROLOGY

EDITORIAL

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Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the first edition of the special issue in uro-oncology. The last year has been a difficult year with the COVID-19 crisis. Despite the challenges, researchers globally have been resilient and have made significant academic strides within the various disciplines of uro-oncology. In this special series we have invited world-wide academic leaders from the UK, USA, Turkey, France, Hong-Kong, Austria, Belgium to share their experience and discuss the contemporary literature on some of the most topical issues in prostate, renal, bladder and upper tract urothelial cancers.

We have observed a paradigm shift in the diagnostic strategies employed for prostate cancer. The emphasis has been to increase detection rates of clinically significant cancer and decrease detection of clinically insignificant cancers with pre-prostate biopsy multiparametric MRIs. Additionally, there has been a global concern with the alarming rise of infective complications and antibiotic resistance associated with prostate biopsies performed via the trans-rectal route. In order to mitigate this issue, trans-perineal prostate biopsy under a local anaesthetic is steadily becoming mainstream practise in a number of units of clinical excellence. The editorial team therefore aimed to focus on these topics with four review articles discussing the aforementioned topics. There has also been considerable debate in the evolving role of radical prostatectomy in patients with high-risk prostate and metastatic prostate cancer. Novel ablative approaches are gaining interest as well. The editorial team therefore dedicated review articles on these respective topics.

Robotic surgery has been commonplace in modern day urological practise. There is often debate whether the technology has spread without the appropriate research scrutiny particularly in bladder cancer. A review article summarising the most up to date level-1 evidence comparing open and robotic radical cystectomy has been published. From a technical standpoint the controversial role of pelvic lymph node in patients undergoing radical cystectomy has been discussed in this special issue. Upper tract urothelial cancers are relatively uncommon cancers and as a result there is paucity of good quality evidence guiding clinicians. There remain diagnostic, staging and therapeutic challenges with the disease. The editorial team have dedicated a chapter on upper tract urothelial cancers discussing some of the contemporary thinking on the disease.

Within renal cancer the authors have chosen to dedicate a chapter on the role of cytoreductive nephrectomy in metastatic cancer. Recent Level 1 evidence has suggested that role nephrectomy in large metastatic burden maybe limited. This has been further complicated by novel systemic options that are available. Two scenarios where the evidence remains unclear and where cytoreductive nephrectomy may still have a role are: 1) Patients with low metastatic burden and a good performance status 2) Patients who've had a good response to systemic therapy having originally had high volume disease. This chapter therefore address some of the debate in the evolving area. The editorial team also choose to review the literature on less discussed areas such as angiomyolipoma of the kidney.

The editorial team is very grateful to all the authors and reviewers who have contributed to this high-quality special issue summarising the most up to date literature. We realise this is a painstaking effort especially amidst a very serious pandemic and for this we can't thank you enough. To our readers we do hope you enjoy this issue, and hope the included articles help hone your clinical practise. We are continually attempting to make these issues more interesting. Your constructive feedback is most welcome and will facilitate our attempt in spreading academic excellence.

Respectfully yours

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