

Orthopaedic Challenges in Asia

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I am delighted to present an extraordinary review of neglected orthopaedic conditions. Neglected orthopaedic conditions continue to form a major volume of work for orthopaedic surgeons practicing in developing countries. This special focus section reviews the literature and formulates some guidelines so that surgeons who come across these conditions will have the newest literature and guidelines to get the best outcome in their patients. All authors who have contributed are the experts in their field, and there is no doubt regarding their clinical skills and knowledge.

Prof. Ajay Puri and Dr. Yogesh Panchwagh lead the section with an indepth review of limb salvage surgery options for late presenting or large malignant bone tumors. Although a customized megaprosthesis is a standard mode of treatment, the authors provide a review of other options that may suite patients who cannot afford a megaprosthesis. The authors belong to the prestigious Tata Memorial Hospital at Mumbai, India where the highest number of malignancies are being treated in Asia. The article provides a wide choice of surgical options other than megaprotheses and is of interest for surgeons treating bone tumors.

Prof. Ashok Johari has vast experience in treating children with septic late presenting hip dislocations. Although debate continues regarding the best modality of treatment for these hips, Drs. Johari, Ratna, and Shalin have commendably given a simple algorithm for treatment of children with late septic hips. The review also looks at the diagnostic and investigative modalities in the management of septic hips.

Although tuberculosis is decreasing in the western world, in developing countries it still forms a major share of osteoarticular infections. Prof. Sudhir Babhulkar provides an extraordinary update on management of late and unusual presentations of osteoarticular tuberculosis around the hip, knee, and spine.

Much has been written about staging and treatment of Perthes disease. Prof. Benjamin Joseph and Dr. Anjali

Benjamin Daniel give an outstanding update in the epidemiology, pathogenesis, and treatment of Perthes disease. They also elaborate on the future research possibilities in the field of management of Perthes disease.

Dr. Alain Dimeglio and Dr. Federico Canavese present an excellent review of managing neglected relapsed and resistant clubfoot deformities. They elaborate on the stage at which children come in for treatment and the best options for them. Being a tertiary referral pediatric orthopaedic institute, we see a large number of neglected and relapsed clubfoot deformities. We use the single-stage procedure (tendo-Achilles tenotomy, plantar fasciotomy, and dorsal closing wedge osteotomy) for treating these neglected and recurrent late presenting cases. Dr. Alain Dimeglio and Dr. Federico Canavese emphasize the role of this single-stage procedure while managing this difficult problem. They re-emphasize that every effort should be made to treat the child with clubfoot as early as possible after birth to prevent neglected deformities.

Management of congenital dislocation of the knee is difficult particularly when patients come late for the treatment. Dr. Premal Naik presents a simplified review of the recent literature in managing congenital dislocation of the knee. The author has made the difficult subject easy to understand in regards to etiology as well as mode of treatment.

Monteggia fracture-dislocation continues to be missed all over the world, particularly when being treated by resident-level surgeons. Dr. Atul Bhaskar reviews the literature in managing missed Monteggia fracture-dislocation. He has emphasized the role of distraction-angulation osteotomy for achieving radial head reduction.

These articles are excellent reviews of the current concepts in treating neglected or late presenting conditions. It is not only a compilation of the literature but the authors also have included their indepth experiences of the respective subjects. I am sure that the readers will find these definitive solutions helpful.

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