

JDEP 2021: Some Progress, More is Needed!

This issue marks the end of the 4th year of the *Journal of Diabetes and Endocrine Practice* (JDEP) and the 1st year to produce four issues per year. Despite the low volume of submissions, we kept the ball rolling and we hope to get more confidence from authors and readers. Maintaining the “relevance” of the journal to its potential readers remains of paramount importance. Almost all articles were reflective of the clinical practice and research in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. We hope the quality of the editorial processes and production will encourage more submissions. We are grateful to those who trusted JDEP to be the venue for the dissemination of their research work and opinions. We are also grateful to our old and recent friends from all over the world for contributing expert comments to put the articles in a clinical context. We hope to continue this to support both the North-South and South-South dialogs.

The Abstracts of the Free Communications of the Gulf Association of Endocrinology and Diabetes Virtual Congress 2021 held on October 7–9, 2021, take a noticeable portion of the current issue. We hope the authors benefit from the event to consolidate their ideas by interacting with their colleagues on the web during the event. We also hope to see many of these abstracts getting fully published. Nonetheless, we also included other ordinary articles. Several original articles are included in this issue. We have the first survey from the Middle East and Africa on the clinical practice patterns in the management of thyroid nodules from the MENA Endocrine Group. A systematic review addresses the effectiveness, safety, and parental satisfaction of insulin pump therapy versus multiple-dose injection therapy in preschool children with Type 1 diabetes: a systematic review and meta-analysis by Muammar *et al.* from the Imperial College London Diabetes Center of Abu Dhabi. Saad *et al.* from the Dubai Diabetes Center publish their cross-section study on diabetes distress and depression among patients with Type 2 diabetes in the United Arab Emirates. Two articles focused on the topic of the year by addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on diabetic ketoacidosis admissions to a COVID-19-free hospital in the UAE and the impact of the lockdown and changes in clinical practice on glycemic control during the COVID-19 pandemic from the National Diabetes Center in Doha, Qatar. Also, the lipid profiles of Nigerians living with Type 2 diabetes mellitus were investigated in a systematic review and meta-analysis. Two review articles addressed some topical and futuristic perspectives. The first reflected on what we know on the impact

of thyroid nodule location on the risk of thyroid cancer by the Mayo Clinic group. The second reviewed current evidence and rationale for combined surgical and cell therapy in critical limb ischemia with special focus on diabetic patients by the Abu Dhabi Stem Cell Center in UAE.

Finally, two interesting case reports are included. The first is on *de novo* NSD1 mutation leading to Sotos syndrome as the first case to be described from Oman. The second is a case series on the characteristics and outcome of subacute thyroiditis following COVID vaccine.

As we say goodbye to the year 2021, we would like to thank our publisher (MedKnow) for the last 4 years. We wish you all the best for the New Year 2022.

Conflicts of interest

Nil

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Salem A. Beshyah^{1,2}, Ebaa Al-Ozairi³, Naji Aljohani⁴

¹Department of Endocrinology, Yas Clinic Khalifa City, Abu Dhabi, ²Department of Medicine, ³Department of Medicine, Daman Diabetes Center, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kuwait, Kuwait City, Kuwait, ⁴Obesity, Endocrine and Metabolism Center, King Fahad Medical City, Faculty of Medicine, King Saud Bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Address for correspondence: Dr. Salem A. Beshyah, P.O. Box 59472, Al Bateen, Abu Dhabi, UAE.
E-mail: beshyah@yahoo.com

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