

EDITORIAL BY THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dear Readers

Today's issue is special as it was prepared under the guidance of Professor Jadwiga Snarska, an outstanding coloproctology surgeon, the Head of Department of Surgery at the Collegium Medicum, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, and the Director of Science in the Hospital of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration in Olsztyn. Doctors from the Hospital of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration with Warmia and Mazury Oncology Centre and Provincial Specialist Children's Hospital in Olsztyn are the authors of presented articles.

In this issue you will find a paper on surgical treatment of a rectovesical fistula formed as a result of iatrogenic injury after prostatectomy. Surgical access (transabdominal, transperineal, transrectal) and the choice of reconstructive technique are still a subject of discussion among surgeons. The authors describe their experiences in the treatment of 3 patients with rectovesical fistula. What is valuable is the fact that they also present their failures in treating these patients.

The authors concluded that novel techniques using a single port seem promising in the treatment of this severe complication, but, at the same time, they pointed out that observation in a larger group of patients is needed for a clear conclusion.

I particularly recommend an article on the role of statins in the prevention of colorectal cancer (CRC). The increasing incidence of colorectal cancer has directed the attention of the medical society to the possibilities of chemoprevention of this malignancy. The role of statins in chemoprevention of CRC is not clearly defined. The authors of the article presented an up-to-date review of the literature on the role of statins in colorectal cancer prevention, emphasising the absence of adverse reactions. It seems that statin therapy may play an important role in reducing the risk of CRC in modern societies.

Another paper on colorectal cancer discusses the issue of CRC in patients after kidney transplantation. This is a multidisciplinary paper written by fellow doctors of different specialities. Factors related to kidney transplantation increase the risk of CRC. The authors point to the need for special, uniform guidelines on the type and frequency of screening (e.g. colonoscopy) and enhanced cancer surveillance in this group of patients who are at a particularly increased risk of cancer.

I was personally intrigued by an original paper on treatment methods and outcomes in infants with fistula and abscesses. It turns out that fistula-in-ano is more common in boys (up to 93%). This is also true in the adult population; however, the epidemiological distribution is more uniform here (2:1). I noted that another important difference between fistulas in infants and adults is the fact that the first group usually presents with low fistulas involving the entire sphincter mass. Therefore, fistulotomy and fistulectomy are the most common procedures in these patients. The authors achieved high cure rates using these methods in their infant patients (100 and 97%).

I cordially congratulate Professor Jadwiga Snarska for editing such an interesting issue of "New Medicine".

I wish you an interesting read and a bit of optimism in these difficult times.

Editor-in-chief
Małgorzata Kołodziejczak

