The many journals in the domains of Orthopaedics and Trauma instil a sense of trepidation in the clinician who has volumes to sift through in order to arrive at useful quality information. Even a simple search on keywords now leads to hundred of 'hits'. There is a deluge of surplus and repeated information. As Editors-in-chief of a new journal, how do we justify another addition?

Three main reasons underlie the development and publication of *Strategies in Trauma and Limb Reconstruction*. There is need for a scientific forum in which material from the associated sub-specialties of limb trauma and reconstruction can be presented jointly; there are already journals dedicated to Orthopaedic trauma but not to limb reconstruction. To those not familiar with limb reconstruction it encompasses surgery to improve a limb that is structurally and functionally deficient, usually without resort to prosthetic implants or amputation; it includes 'traditional' Orthopaedic means, Plastic surgical techniques, the Ilizarov method and its variants, as well as newer strategies. Such a broad repertoire may overlap with established Orthopaedic journals but giving it a focus on surgical strategies founded on an evidence-based, detailed descriptions of surgical technique and technical reports, as well as original papers and case studies provides the second reason for this new addition. In many ways we see this journal becoming a surgical tutor and conveyor of new information not only to surgeons but also allied professionals involved in the care of such patients. The third justification was a prerequisite at conception – that the journal and all material within be accessible on-line and without charge. It was recognised that the major-

ity of patients who are victims of trauma, and the complications thereof, or are afflicted by congenital or degenerative limb disorders inhabit parts of the world where arthroplasty and implant-based techniques are either expensive or not available. The doctors caring for these individuals may not have access to specific training in limb reconstruction techniques and find information lacking in the public domain. Whilst the internet has changed access to information, some sources remain accessible only by subscription. It is a brave new world for high quality information in this subject, refereed by international experts, to be available freely.

The Associate Editors and members of the Editorial Board were invited from many corners of the globe in order to represent a balanced appraisal of submissions which may reflect regional variations in approaches to trauma and limb reconstruction. It is our intention to promote the evidence-led movement in medicine but not discard ingenuity or experience from this large community of doctors who have much to share through technical reports and case studies.

The success of the aims we set out will be borne not only by the number of cross-references made to articles in this journal but also by the number of 'hits' from on-line access. It is our wish the journal becomes the tutor, advisor and stimulus for greater thought in the fields of Orthopaedic trauma and limb reconstruction.

Durai Nayagam
Konrad Mader