Editorial

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Received: 12 March 2017 / Accepted: 13 March 2017
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When one breathes down your neck, you had better stick your neck out and run neck and neck to save your neck or you will lose by a neck and land up to your neck in problems. A real pain in the neck!

This issue of the *European Spine Journal* is devoted to the cervical spine. There is a good mix of papers covering anatomy, diagnosis, biomechanics, treatment, trauma and outcomes. Of interest is the origin of the papers. Fourteen contributions come from China, three from Japan, two from Australia, one from India, one from Thailand: Asia is well represented in our Journal. Five papers come from the USA and thirteen from Europe. This reflects the submissions, which indeed originate from all over the world.

Many papers revolve around surgery, yet still too few are really prospective or based on information gathered through registries. And more non-surgical contributions are welcome.

Proverbs related to the spine in general and as here to the cervical spine specifically are plentiful. Certainly the languages spoken in the many countries contributing to this issue have their own. I am sure one day someone will do a study on this!

Compliance with ethical standards

Conflict of interest None.

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