Editor's corner

G. Campanelli¹

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First of all, I am pleased to report that our first Forum, devoted to primary unilateral uncomplicated inguinal hernia repair is achieving the goals we set, namely, to stimulate and extend discussion on this topic, and to attempt to identify a tentative “flow chart” that might possibly represent the first step towards providing tailored indications on: when, why, and how. All the related articles will appear in a dedicated Topical Issue.

All of you, our *Hernia* readers, are warmly invited to send us your comments, suggestions, and proposals in this regard.

Moving on to another topic, abdominal wall hernia surgery, particularly inguinal hernia surgery, has always been regarded as “simpler” than intra-abdominal (or visceral) surgery. While this may be true, or true to an extent, in the case of primary hernias, it certainly does not apply when it comes to complicated forms, recurrences, multiple recurrences and so-called parietal disasters.

Furthermore, some “primary” incisional hernias (basically, ones that have never been treated surgically) can prove to be a real challenge for general surgeons, especially those who, over the years, have failed to keep abreast of developments with regard to material technologies and the techniques used in the various approaches.

Absence of specialization and of up-to-date knowledge of scientific advances ultimately translates into a lack of the necessary scientific background and specific surgical experience, and this, in turn, can lead to a series of unforeseen

situations that can prove very challenging to treat and resolve surgically.

We are talking about the complications of abdominal wall surgery. Recurrences, multiple recurrences, mesh migration, seroma and visceral complications are all complex situations that require a thorough ex-post evaluation to be able to plan effective prevention.

In this issue of *Hernia*, we highlight many situations of this kind and also present our forthcoming 3rd Forum and Topical Issue, for which we here launch the call for participation. The Forum will be devoted to complexity and complex situations in abdominal wall surgery, and will appear in the first issue of 2020.

All *Hernia* readers are warmly invited to send us their contributions, setting out their experience and knowledge on the subject of complex cases. Submissions may take the form of systematic reviews focusing on a specific topic (such as flank hernia, multiple recurrences, parietal disaster, giant hernia, massive evisceration, eventration, etc.), original papers, and “How-I-do-it” papers, but authors are asked to avoid submitting single case reports. Authors of papers presenting particular surgical techniques are invited to supply video images.

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Editor-in-Chief: G. Campanelli.

✉ G. Campanelli
giampiero.campanelli@grupposandonato.it

¹ University of Insubria, Gruppo Ospedaliero San Donato, Milan, Italy