



# Professional experience, peer-to-peer relationships, scientific papers: what matters most

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For a number of years now, we have been witnessing a progressive change in interpersonal relationships, be it in the family setting (where this change is most commonly experienced), the workplace or in interpersonal relationships generally.

The pandemic has played a more than decisive role in this phenomenon.

There is no doubt that while the now vast wealth of opportunities for remote interaction has, in some ways, simplified relationships, it has also distanced us from real feelings. The fact is, it is only when two people are able to meet and see each other face to face that they are likely to develop that special “feeling” or understanding that they need to have in order to really get to know each other.

In science, the daily work of a surgeon can remain an end in itself and gratify the individual concerned, even when, overwhelmed by commitments, routine and life generally, they fail to communicate their results. When this happens, what scientific value can these results possibly have? The opportunity for visibility is wasted and the profession as a whole loses out.

There is only one way to prevent this from happening, and that is by “comparing notes” with peers. In other words, it is only by comparing our own techniques, results and problems with the ones used, obtained or encountered by other

professionals that we can obtain progress. As well as an honest evaluation of our work.

And if this process of “comparing notes” brings to light real results, in other words, good scientific work that can benefit the global surgical community, then we really have no choice but to try and ensure that it gets published in a serious and recognised journal.

Producing good scientific work is complex, laborious and difficult, but it is also a source of great satisfaction, not only in terms of impact and citations, but also, and perhaps above all, because it allows us to indicate alternative avenues, share useful experiences, and generate those close peer-to-peer relationships that are essential for everyone’s professional growth.

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## Declarations

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