FROM THE EDITORS' DESK

It has been a privilege to be involved in the editorial process of this special issue of the Indian Journal of Surgery (IJS).

We would like to thank the Chief Editor and the Editorial board of IJS for giving us this opportunity.

How does one go about putting together a 'special' issue? One could get 'commissioned' articles from well known authorities in the field; or, one could call for articles related to the subject and go about selecting the best ones after a peer review. We chose the latter method to make the process more democratic and transparent.

We had an average response to the call given in the IJS. We also 'persuaded' our contacts known to be 'academic' to send in articles. From the pool of articles that we got, we have chosen the 'best' to put together this issue. We would really appreciate constructive feedback from the readers.

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We may be permitted to make a few observations based on the experience we had while putting this together.

- While a lot of good work is going on in the country, very few surgeons document and put their experience on paper. A lot of good material is 'lost' because of this.
- Very few of us get trained in reading and writing scientific papers.
- Deadlines are 'dead' – hardly any manuscript reaches the editors on time!

All of us have to collectively think about these issues and proactively address them.

We once again thank you for this opportunity and hope you find this effort worthwhile.

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