From the technical zone

Assoc Prof George Larcos

As editor, it's pleasing to see the broad role that ultrasound plays and the range of publications that land on my desk as a result. In this issue, the expanding role of ultrasound in the emergency department setting is highlighted by two articles from Shirley and Stieler. As Shirley astutely notes, bedside ultrasound is becoming the 21st century equivalent of Rene Laennec's famous invention, the stethoscope.

Stieler pushes the envelope a little more, with a series of nice images on new applications in the ED. As the role of ultrasound expands, our impact on decision making in certain areas can also raise important questions. One of these concerns ethical principles in antenatal care; now you might think this is a little oblique to performing an ultrasound, but I

always like to see the "big picture". With this in mind, Joshi and Uppal present a case report featuring a fetal abnormality and how it was acted on by the parents. In an accompanying commentary, Mills from the University of Sydney outlines some of the principles one can invoke to consider the matter. For disciples of the only true sport on this planet, shoulder injuries are unusual (well, except if your name is Shay Given), but in the interests of appeasing those of you who follow games in which kicking a pill shaped ball or barging into people is "your thing" we have been fortunate to entice John Read and Mark Perko to review the topic of subacromial impingement for the Journal; in a well written article, they challenge us to refine our technique and the way we interpret findings. Next, articles from Westerway and Williams underscore the generosity of many within our ranks and I am grateful for their contributions; as Solomon wryly observed in Ecclesiastes, "a wise man's heart inclines him to the right (10:2)". Finally, don't miss our regular sections on "side-lobes" and "sound reflections".

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Editor