



The virtue of recognizing the value of those good things that surround us

La virtud de reconocer el valor de aquellas cosas buenas que nos rodean

Allow me, with some reflections, to present the first issue of volume 28 of the *Revista Colombiana de Radiología*, in which a group of professionals and an institution of diagnostic images such as CediMed put at the disposal of their colleagues a valuable educational content.

Remember that what is truly important for our lives is still in force and accompanies us, has as much value as closing our eyes and discovering inwardly that we are at peace with ourselves and with others. When we are performing routine tasks without special celebrations, with no surprises, sharing with family, working without rest, exercising the weak muscles of the anonymous sedentary or studying science, time unveils second to second in harmony, without fuss, in complete calm. If, on the contrary, something irregular, sudden, unplanned alters the balance, the inertia of the immutable is lost, and we immediately react to correct the unexpected, to return to the monotony that anesthetizes us. It is in that moment of conflict between the expected and the unheard of is when we realize the value of what we have, of those we enjoy and everything that surrounds us and makes possible the feeling of well-being.

The people who accompany us, the institutions to which we belong to, the environment and society, step by step, make it possible for us, unnoticed, to enjoy a considerable degree of happiness. Our own works, achievements and values facilitate that in the mixture, life remains and is renewed; it allows for miracles to multiply, and alchemy, the raw material to merge and explode with the magic dust of reality.

Not only does poetry apply to the most sublime or spiritual, as are the spheres of life or divinity. To focus on the terrain of something more mundane, as is our profession, radiology, we realize its importance: it is imperative. Without God, without family, without friends and without health we could not sleep placidly; equally, without radiology the medical work would be completely different. In a similar way as it is for the other mysteries mentioned above, the profession that we voluntarily profess also requires recipes and natural ingredients that, mixed and scrambled, reproduce a feeling of work accomplished, gratefulness, tranquility. It requires the essence of love for patients, many spoonfuls of passion to enjoy what we do, many hints of dedication and effort and, above all, a great cover of responsibility and love for service to others.

Behind the scenes, without thinking it, they are doing what corresponds to their trade colleagues, the institutions where we work, the co-workers, the organizations to which we belong. The Colombian Association of Radiology is a fundamental support for our professional development, to acquire economic stability, for the improvement of quality and, above all, to provide a unique space of encounter between academic pairs and discussion of realities; so we plan the future in the face of technological advances or socialize with the world with which we interact. The *Revista Colombiana de Radiología* has always been there, accompanying us, enriching our knowledge and promoting research.

Imagine for a single moment that you suddenly receive the news that by means of a curse or art of a bad witch, the ACR has disappeared from the planet with all its possessions and attributes, that there will be no more national congresses of radiology and this volume with which I am invading this room will never go out into print. I dare to think, with a fair chance of success, that if that happened, most would be disturbed by the calm, the stability. It would take a long time to assimilate this new reality, which we could possibly never understand, as happens when a loved one vanishes into immaterial dust.

Infallibly, we are all part of this world, sometimes material, and sometimes surreal. To be in harmony is not given to us by divine art without cause and without reason. Well-being must be built between all those involved, with determination and commitment, with service and love.

The pages of this magazine are still available to invade it of knowledge, of thoughts. Some are better than others, but all valuable for their effort and interest. That is why I thank all those who make possible my own well-being, those who build day by day the development of the ACR and those who write these articles that continuously teach us.

To continue doing the good that others do, is not lacking initiative or copying in mediocrity; it is simply to recognize that we have an obligation, and it is to transcend. To transcend is not to be a part of great things, it is to make it possible for the simple to remain, because the simpler things are, the less easy it is to awaken us from the sweet dreams of peace.

I invite you to close your eyes, to perceive all the good we have, to recognize that everything that makes us happy is because there is something or someone that has made it possible and that is why it is our obligation to thank them by giving back to them the same space or moment of tranquility of which we do not want to wake up.

José Rodrigo Restrepo González M.D.*
Invited editor



* Radiologist, specialist in musculo-skeletal CediMed, clinical epidemiologist, former president of the Colombian Association of Radiology, former president of the Inter-American Radiology College, president of the Integrated System of Radiology for Ibero-American Certification and Accreditation (SIRCAI) and professor of Radiology at the Pontificia Bolivariana and CES universities in Medellín.