



The editorials of the Colombian Journal of Radiology

On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Asociación Colombiana de Radiología, and at the invitation of the Scientific Committee, we took a look at the editorials that have been published in the *Revista Colombiana de Radiología*.

In addition to the editors-in-chief and associates, Colombian and foreign radiologists have participated as guests. The first editorials were written by Santiago Restrepo Uribe, the first director of the journal. The associate editors, radiologists Carlos Jiménez Cuervo and Luis Felipe Uriza Carrasco, have also participated with editorials, as have other members of the Editorial Committee. When Rodrigo Restrepo, Mauricio Lozano, Martha Edith Oyuela and Federico Lubinus were presidents of the Colombian Association of Radiology, they were also guest editors. Likewise, the heads of academic radiology programs or academic institutions that led the special editions with the scientific production of their departments wrote the corresponding editorials. Among the foreign radiologists who have been our guests, I highlight Mauricio Castillo, who authored three editorials on physician burnout in radiology, and José Luis del Cura.

The editorials that include reflections for radiologists and those inviting to write for publication are the most numerous, and account for a little more than half of those published to date.

The functions of editorials in medical journals are varied. As in other publications, some are intended to show the journal's position on topics of interest or controversy, and this has been the case with those we call "reflections for radiologists". These have dealt with topics such as the influence of new technologies and advances in the practice of radiologists.

Their significance has also varied. Some have pointed out fundamental changes and we could say that they are still current, such as "The role of the radiologist in cerebral infarction in the 21st century"—which supported what was stated in the article "Evaluation of cerebral perfusion"—, "The contribution of imaging in cranioencephalic trauma" and "Breast cancer screening in third world countries". Other editorials, on the contrary, pointed out facts that did not transcend so much, such as "What place do radiologists have today in the diagnosis of gastric cancer", which promoted the diagnosis of gastric pathology by means of barium examination of the digestive tract, whose role in medical practice today is marginal.

The editorials have also invited radiologists to reflect on issues that influence their daily work, in parallel to the purely scientific: the quality of images, informed consent, radiation control in scanography studies, safety in magnetic resonance imaging, and radiologists and their relationship with the patient.

The professional autonomy of the physician, territorial battles, the virtue of recognizing the value of those good things that surround

us and burnout in radiological physicians are examples of topics that have motivated Colombian radiologists on issues that transcend the purely radiological to their being as a physician and as a person.

An important group of the editorials of the *Revista Colombiana de Radiología* tries to encourage radiologists to publish, emphasizing the importance of putting their scientific productions in writing. Also in this area, the rules of publication, writing and even spelling have been described. Some of the writings in this regard have been entitled "Why don't we write?", "Writing for radiology in our environment" and "Researching, publishing and writing in the midst of the crisis". The crisis referred to in that editorial was that of the end of the last century, when the difficult economic situation of the country led to the closure of the Social Security Institute and such important centers as the Hospital Infantil Lorencita Villegas de Santos.

Other editorial titles related to writing and publishing have been: "Concepts on authorship", "Research in radiology", "Quality in scientific publications", "Quality and visibility of a scientific publication", and "Informed consent of patients for the publication of medical photographs".

Radiology education as a function of the journal has been a prominent content, as can be seen in the issues dedicated to the academic departments of radiology and diagnostic imaging, whose editorials were written by those responsible for such radiology education for that time. "The Challenge of Teaching Radiology and Diagnostic Imaging", "The Structured Radiology Report," and "Compare, A Great Diagnostic Tool" have been education-oriented editorials.

Informative editorials have announced some of the transformations of the Colombian Association of Radiology, its alliances and anniversaries. Of course, the status of the journal in terms of its indexing and relations with Publindex, the Colciencias system for the evaluation and classification of national scientific journals, has also been communicated through editorials.

I wanted, then, to share through this editorial the look back of the editorial page found in each issue of the journal, which informs, invites to reflect or to publish and presents assumptions on topics considered of general interest for radiologists as medical professionals and as individuals.

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