

EDITORIAL

Dear esteemed readers of TurkJEM Family,

The health performance of an individual and inequality in health are influenced by social, economic, genetic, and environmental elements. These factors strongly determine the conditions in which we are born, educated, trained, grow, live, work. People with lower levels of education have a higher risk of suffering from certain illnesses than those with a high level of education where metabolic disorders are no exception.

Health is the key determinant of social and economic participation in social life, our earnings stream, our physical and psychological wellbeing which determine our living environments. Needless to say that happiness, enjoyment that we receive from life has a direct effect on the vision we carry towards the future. Recent research being completed by "EuroHealthNet" shows a big divergence among population strata although overall there seems to be an improvement. One other striking finding of the research shows that inequalities in health are as severe as inequalities of education and income. We should not forget that there are negative externalities in these inequalities reflecting a well-being reduction among well-performing citizens. Independent of the COVID-19 pandemic health inequality is widening among social groups during the last decade. This simply shows that market economy rules are not leading to positive developments due to the public good nature of health. Improvements in health inequalities are only possible by prioritized public investment and by strong public support towards health.

Diabetes and COVID-19 infection may lead the patient in a vicious spiral, with possibly unwanted outcomes. Besides such unwanted results, there are very limited scientific evidences that can guide management directions for diabetes during the COVID-19 pandemic. Patients are left with three options: first is getting vaccinated, second visiting an endocrinologist for regular check-ups or third postpone treatment which they might pay a very price for their well-being. We are hoping to see days without COVID-19 pandemic in each of our countries as well as throughout the world.

The summer edition of TurkJEM has these distinguished publications: "Foot Ulcer a Devastating Complication of Diabetes Mellitus: A Single-Center Experience of 400 Patients", "The Evaluation of Malignancy Rate of Incidental Thyroid Nodules Detected by FDG-PET/CT", "Pulmonary Function and Serum Carboxymethyl-Lysine Level Evaluation in Acromegaly Patients", "Iodine Deficiency to Iodine Excess: Have We Come Full Circle?", "Disease Activity is Associated with Depression and Anxiety in Cushing's Syndrome During COVID-19 Pandemic", "Plasma Levels of Soluble P-Selectin, Beta-Thromboglobulin and Platelet Indices in Patients with Prediabetes: Effects of Acute Hyperglycemic Stress", "Sexual Functions of Transgender Individuals Before Gender Transition", "Serum Paraoxonase-1 Activity and Paraoxonase Q192 Gene Polymorphism in a Young, Healthy Population", "Treatment Patterns and Associated Clinical Outcomes in Type 2 Diabetes Patients Initiating Second-Line Glucose-Lowering Therapy: Interim Analysis of Baseline Data from Turkey Arm of the Global DISCOVER Study", "Primary Hypoparathyroidism, Current Treatment, and Recent Experience with Parathormone Analogs in Adults", "A Case of Plurihormonal Pituitary Giant Macroadenoma", "Subacute Thyroiditis Secondary to SARS-CoV-2 Infection; Case Studies from Turkey", "Subclinical Hypothyroidism and Munchausen Syndrome: A Rare Entity", "Toxic Multi Nodular Goiter and Struma ovarii Coexistence: Report of a Rare Case", "Remission of Diabetes Mellitus in Two Patients with Maturity-Onset Diabetes of the Young After Bariatric Surgery".

Wish you all a very healthy and pleasant summer time.

With my best regards,

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Editor-in-Chief