Global increase in migration and its impact on surgical clinics

Dear readers of the Turkish Journal of Surgery,

We are glad to be with you again in this new issue. In our June 2024 issue, you will again have the chance to read very interesting articles.

One of them is the article by Varshney and Kapoor. In their review article on hepato-pancreato-biliary tuberculosis, the authors provide a detailed review of the literature on this topic and share their extensive experience (1).

Tuberculosis is a disease that still makes its impact in certain parts of the world and surgeons have challenges in its treatment due to its abdominal complications. The fact that tuberculosis is common only in certain parts of the world does not diminish the importance of this disease. On the contrary, recent events have shown us that a disease that is common in one part of the world can be a major problem for the whole world.

Especially in the last few decades, the number of people migrating for various reasons has increased globally. The International Organization of Migration (IOM), a United Nations institution, monitors and reports on the number of migration and its impact. According to the World Migration Report 2024 published by IOM, the number of migrants has been on a steady increase since the 70’s (2). As of 2020, 3.6% of the world population are migrants. It is not difficult to predict that this number will continue to increase due to climate change, ongoing wars, pandemics and economic factors. These migration movements will certainly have medical consequences. A disease that is common in one region may have never been seen before in the new place where migrants have settled. The experience of physicians may be insufficient in the treatment of these diseases. To give an example, there may not have been a case of abdominal tuberculosis in your area for a long time. But in this new era, perhaps very soon a migrant patient will show up in the emergency room with complications. That is why I urge you to read Varshney and Kapoor’s article carefully.

It is necessary to prepare all health personnel in advance for the consequences of the migration waves. This is a responsibility that all scientific journals have for public health. As TJS, we try to fulfill this responsibility as much as we can.

In closing, we ask you to se -as always- to send your best work to TJS.

Yours sincerely,

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REFERENCES