

Journals' reviews

The American Journal of Sports Medicine



The editorials of the American Journal of Sports Medicine (AJSM), signed by Bruce Reider – the editor in chief of the journal, deserve to be mentioned.

In the issue of October 2010, B. Reider presents, based on a clinical case, the risks of re-injury after the surgical repair of the anterior cruciate ligament. Statistical data are provided and two articles on ACL surgery are mentioned, which are published in the journal. According to the author, specialists/surgeons should cooperate with athletes in order to manage ACL lesions and prevent future injuries.

The issue of November 2010 gives B. Reider the opportunity to approach a challenging topic „ghostwriters and guest-writers”.

The author begins by recalling a historical fact that is still controversial after four centuries: who W. Shakespeare really was and who the author of the immortal works published under his name is.

Ghostwriters are currently under the focus of inquiries used in medical scientific publications, this practice being blamed for ethical reasons. The International Society for medical publications professionals has elaborated recommendations in this respect (see BMJ 339b, 4330,

2009). Other associations (The World association of medical editors and The International committee of medical journal editors) have joined this campaign, and so has AJSM.

In volume 38 of December 2010, B. Reider publishes the editorial ”Under surveillance”, which contains a large amount of information on the most varied areas of life. The author particularly insists on two surveillance systems.

A first controversial project called ”Déjà-vu” refers to the multitude of articles of the Medline database, being aimed at identifying the frequently disguised forms of plagiarism.

The second manifestation of surveillance is the ”Cross-Check” system initiated in 2009, intended for a database of over 25 million articles from 20,000 journals (!).

AJSM has joined the increasing number of journals that use Cross-Check in order to fight plagiarism, including the publication of the same text in several journals, and to detect redundant publications.

Dr. Reider concludes that no surveillance can reform the authors’ ethical behavior. ”In a field where research publications can affect the health, and well-being of many, it is paramount to maintain the integrity of the literature at the highest possible level and to respect the intellectual property of others”.

These ideas are also of great interest for the editorial boards and the authors of scientific journals in Romania.

In the editorial published in the issue of January 2011, entitled ”Theory versus practice”, B. Reider exemplifies the practical importance of a remarkable study performed in dogs (Newman, 1989) and refers in this context to other articles published in specialized American journals, including AJSM.

The most recent of these belongs to Seo (2011) and is commented in detail by B. Reider.

The editorial contains many details of interest for specialists in the therapy of osteoarticular and ligament injuries in athletes.

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