

This edition of the *Journal* contains four contributions from variety of sources. Suárez Grau and co-workers present a full paper from their preliminary abstract presented in Barcelona in 2015, where they evaluate the use of a new anatomical mesh in the repair of bilateral inguinal hernias using the laparoscopic technique. While the rationale for management of bilateral hernias is well established with guidelines advocating laparoscopic repair, with consequent faster return to work, and reduced incidence of chronic pain post-operatively, the authors present preliminary results where they followed patients for six months to evaluate post operative complications. They attribute the absence of such symptoms to the use of different meshes reducing the degree of trauma associated with repair, though the rapid operative times (20–45 minutes) for laparoscopic bilateral repair is something to aspire to.

Jan Eshuis provides an eloquent tribute to a beloved stalwart of the International Association for Ambulatory Surgery, who sadly passed away in June of this year. Those who worked with Bob Williams while he was the Honorary Secretary of this organization will recall his affability and incisiveness, while being saddened at his unexpected death.

Paul Rawling, as Honorary Secretary of the British Association of Day Surgery, presents a review of the Annual Scientific Meeting that was held in Nottingham in June of this year. I would hope we may be able to replicate this with reports of other national meetings in due course, so if you are aiming to attend such meetings in the future, why not consider writing a paper describing the event and the speakers who lectured?

And finally, an offering that I hope will be of use and value to all readers. Having spent many ‘happy’ hours searching the database of the IAAS website for previous editions and abstracts enclosed in *Ambulatory Surgery*, I have collated every paper into a spreadsheet searchable by author name and keyword that allows download of relevant papers to your own computer since inception of the *Journal* in 1993. The bibliography can now be found on the IAAS website for download; I hope you find it useful.

Mark Skues

Editor-in-Chief