

Welcome to the December edition of the *Journal*. Further details have now been released about the forthcoming International Symposium in Bruges, Belgium, next year. Point your browsers at www.iaascongress2022.com for all of the up to date details including the provisional programme and details about abstract submission.

There is sad news in the submissions this quarter. We are saddened to report the passing of Lindsay Roberts, an Australian stalwart of ambulatory surgery who rose to the level of IAAS President in 2001. Those who remember him report him as a man with a tenacity for development of our speciality, which he implemented so successfully.

An American study evaluates the development and implementation of selection criteria for patients selected for ambulatory surgery. Based upon a dataset of 29,000 patients, the authors developed criteria to screen patients for suitability for ambulatory care with collaborative use by anaesthetic colleagues. The criteria were developed into absolute and relative categories, the latter of which were referred for further consultation. The authors reported that implementation assisted with clinical guidance and appropriate triaging for their patient population.

A paper from Denmark reviews post-operative symptoms after uro-gynecological outpatient surgery, from which four main categories were identified. These were voiding difficulty, post-operative pain, being unprepared for bowel problems and unexpected post-operative fatigue. The authors reflect that concentration on these potential symptoms with the development of tailored information is useful for further quality improvement.

Mulchandani and Begani comment upon their rate of complications over a twenty year period from their Indian Day Care Centre, during which they conducted over 7000 surgical procedures. They reported 51 episodes with no mortality and reflect upon the processes already in place in their Centre that can further reduce the relative risk of day surgery.

Finally, an advertising feature from one of our sponsors for the forthcoming congress reporting the benefits of their trolley systems at a newly commissioned Swiss Hospital.

As the year now comes to a close, I hope you have a peaceful and joyous festive season with thoughts to the new year of further enhancement of ambulatory surgery aims

Dr Mark Skues
Editor-in-Chief