

Official Journal of the Turkish Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery Society



◀ Tubercular RP Abscess with Aberrant ICA
Page 50

#### Original Investigations

- Treatment Methods in Early Laryngeal Cancer Mehmet Sürmeli et al.; İstanbul, Turkey
- Adenotonsillectomy OSATS
  Cüneyt Orhan Kara et al.; Denizli, Turkey
- Cochlear Re-Implantation
  Abha Kumari et al.; Kolkatta, Delhi, Chennai, India
- The Mode of Delivery and Hearing Screening Selis Gülseven Güven; Edirne, Turkey
- Turkish Adaptation of COMQ-12 Can Doruk et al.; İstanbul, Turkey
- Auditory System in Specific Learning Disabilities Emine Demirel Aksoy; Ankara, Turkey
- Clinical Efficacy of TRT
  Sanjana Vijay Nemade et al.; Maharashtra, India





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Publication Type: Yerel süreli / Local periodical • Basım yeri / Printed at: Matsis Matbaa Hizmetleri San. ve Tic.Ltd.Şti, Tevfikbey Mah., Dr. Ali Demir Cad. No: 51, 34290 Sefaköy, Turkey (+90-212-624 21 11) • Basım tarihi / Printing Date: Mart 2019 / March 2019 • Türk Kulak Burun Boğaz ve Baş Boyun Cerrahisi Derneği tarafından yayımlanmaktadır. Published by Turkish Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery Society, Çobançeşme Sanayi Cad. No: 11 Nish İstanbul A Blok D: 8 Yenibosna, İstanbul, Turkey (+90 212 233 11 26)



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#### Aims and Scope

The Turkish Archives of Otorhinolaryngology (Turk Arch Otorhinolaryngol) is the scientific, peer reviewed, open access journal of the Turkish Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery Society. The journal is released at three-month intervals, in March, June, September and December, and one volume of the journal comprises four issues. The journal's publication language is English.

The aim of the journal is to publish qualified original clinical, experimental and basic researches on ear, nose, throat, head and neck diseases and surgery, reviews that contain sufficient amount of source data conveying the experiences of experts in a particular field, case reports and original images of rare clinical pictures which would shed light on the clinical practice and which were not previously published, letters from the readers and experts concerning the published studies, articles about general practice and subject of the journal with historical content, memories of scientific significance, educative and catechetical manuscripts about medical deontology and publication ethics.

Target audience of the journal includes academic members, specialists, residents and other relevant health care professionals in the field of ear, nose, throat, and head and neck disorders and surgery.

The editorial and publication processes of the journal are shaped in accordance with the guidelines of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), World Association of Medical Editors (WAME), Council of Science Editors (CSE), Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), European Association of Science Editors (EASE), and National Information Standards Organization (NISO). The journal is in conformity with the Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing (doaj.org/bestpractice).

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The journal is printed on an acid-free paper.





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Table 1. Limitations for each manuscript type

Table 1. Diffications for each manuscript type								
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Letter to	the Editor	500	No abstract	5	No tables	No media		
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**Book Section**: Suh KN, Keystone JS. Malaria and babesiosis. Gorbach SL, Barlett JG, Blacklow NR, editors. Infectious Diseases. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams; 2004.p.2290-308.

**Books with a Single Author:** Sweetman SC. Martindale the complete drug reference. 34th ed. London: Pharmaceutical Press; 2005.

Editor(s) as Author: Huizing EH, de Groot JAM, editors. Functional reconstructive nasal surgery. Stuttgart-New York: Thieme; 2003.

**Conference Proceedings**: Bengisson S. Sothemin BG. Enforcement of data protection, privacy and security in medical informatics. In: Lun KC, Degoulet P, Piemme TE, Rienhoff O, editors. MEDINFO 92. Proceedings of the 7<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Medical Informatics; 1992 Sept 6-10; Geneva, Switzerland. Amsterdam: North-Holland; 1992. pp.1561-5.

Scientific or Technical Report: Cusick M, Chew EY, Hoogwerf B, Agrón E, Wu L, Lindley A, et al. Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study Research Group. Risk factors for renal replacement therapy in the Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS), Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study Kidney Int: 2004. Report No: 26.

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Manuscripts Published in Electronic Format: Morse SS. Factors in the emergence of infectious diseases. Emerg Infect Dis (serial online) 1995 Jan-Mar (cited 1996 June 5): 1(1): (24 screens). Available from: URL: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidodlElD/cid.htm.

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When submitting a revised version of a paper, the author must submit a detailed "Response to the reviewers" that states point by point how each issue raised by the reviewers has been covered and where it can be found (each reviewer's comment, followed by the author's reply and line numbers where the changes have been made) as well as an annotated copy of the main document. Revised manuscripts must be submitted within 30 days from the date of the decision letter. If the revised version of the manuscript is not submitted within the allocated time, the revision option may be canceled. If the submitting author(s) believe that additional time is required, they should request this extension before the initial 30-day period is over.

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#### Contents

#### **Original Investigations**

- 1 Comparison of Voice Quality and Cost Effectiveness of Endoscopic Cordectomy Using Microdissection Electrodes with Laser Cordectomy and Radiotherapy

  Mehmet Sürmeli, Cağatay Oysu, Ayşe Aslı Şahin Yılmaz, İldem Deveci, Burak Karabulut, Ahmet Volkan Sunter, Özgür Yiğit, Beyhan Ceylaner Bıcakçı; İstanbul, Turkey
- 7 Adaptation of "Objective Structured Assessment of Technical Skills" for Adenotonsillectomy into Turkish: A Validity and Reliability Study
  Cüneyt Orhan Kara, Erdem Mengi, Funda Tümkaya, Fazıl Necdet Ardıç, Hande Şenol; Denizli, Turkey
- 14 A Retrospective Study of Cochlear Re-Implantations Experience from a Large Centre in India Abha Kumari, Sunil Goyal, Senthil Vadivu Arumugam, Viswanathan Vasumathi, Neha Chauhan, Mohan Kameswaran; Kolkatta, Delhi, Chennai, India
- 19 The Effect of Mode of Delivery on Newborn Hearing Screening Results Selis Gülseven Güven; Edirne, Turkey
- 24 Turkish Translation and Validation of Chronic Otitis Media Questionnaire-12
  Can Doruk, Mehmet Çelik, Hakan Kara, Beldan Polat, Yahya Güldiken, Kadir Serkan Orhan; İstanbul, Turkey
- 30 Does the Efferent Auditory System Have a Role in Children with Specific Learning Disabilities? Emine Demirel Aksoy, Belde Culhaoğlu, F. Ceyda Akın Öcal, Selim Sermed Erbek, Hatice Seyra Erbek; Ankara, Turkey
- 34 Clinical Efficacy of Tinnitus Retraining Therapy Based on Tinnitus Questionnaire Score and Visual Analogue Scale Score in Patients with Subjective Tinnitus Sanjana Vijay Nemade, Kiran Jaywant Shinde; Maharashtra, India

#### Review

39 Clinical Applications for Tissue Engineering in Rhinology
Emmanuel Prokopakis, Maria Doulaptsi, Alexander Karatzanis, Hideyuki Kawauchi; Crete, Greece; Shimane, Japan

#### **Case Reports**

- 42 Parotid Gland Non-Sebaceous Lymphadenoma: A Case Report Hiroaki Yamanaka, Hisashi Hasegawa, Makoto Tanaka, Hiroumi Matsuzaki, Takeshi Oshima, Masahiko Sugitani; Tokyo, Japan
- 46 Tonsillar Kaposi Sarcoma in an HIV-Negative Patient: A Case Report Erol Keleş, Cihan Türker, Gökhan Artaş, Turgut Karlıdağ; Elazığ, Turkey
- 50 Tubercular Retropharyngeal Abscess in Association with Aberrant Retropharyngeal Internal Carotid Arteries A Rare Entity: Imaging Diagnosis and a Word of Caution Shuchi Bhatt, Deepawali Malla, Deepti Mukhija, Vipin Arora, Anupama Tandon, Sonal Sharma; Delhi, India
- 54 Huge Dentigerous Cyst in the Maxillary Sinus: A Rare Case in Childhood Övsen Önay, Ahmet Emre Süslü, Taner Yılmaz; Ankara, Turkey

#### Letter to the Editor

57 A Guide for Systematic Reviews: PRISMA Ayşe Adin Selçuk; Kocaeli, Turkey

#### **Editorial**

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to report on the developments of the last four years with Turkish Archives of Otorhinolaryngology (TAO) which is the official journal of Turkish Society of Otorhinolaryngology and Head & Neck Surgery.

Turkish Archives of Otorhinolaryngology has been in publication since November 1962 and it is a great honor to serve as the Editor in Chief of this prestigious journal, which has had a historic and ongoing importance on our specialty in Turkey.

Since our inclusion in Web of Science Emerging Sources Citation Index and PubMed Central (PMC) the visibility of our content and the recognition of our journal in the international arena increased significantly.

Table 1. Change in the number of submitted articles and rejection rates according to the years

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	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*	
Number of submissions	89	97	129	177	55	
Rate of submissions from foreign countries	%5	%18	%17	%25	%25	
Rate of rejection	%61	%54	%62	%73	%81	

<sup>\*</sup> Results of the first two months

Table 2. Details of the submitted articles between 2015 and 2019\*

Year	Original Research	Review	Case Report	Letter to Editor	Others	Total
2015	42	13	33	1	0	89
2016	53	3	40	1	0	97
2017	71	5	44	6	3	129
2018	101	5	63	3	5	177
2019	30	2	21	2	-	55
Total	297	28	201	13	8	547

<sup>\*</sup> Results of the first two months

While the number of articles we received was 89 in 2015, this number was 97 in 2016, 129 in 2017 and 177 in 2018. In this four-year period, 170 articles from 12 countries were published in 16 issues. Acceptance rate of a scientific journal is an important criterion in evaluating the quality of that journal. While this rate was 39% for us in 2015, it decreased to 27% at the end of 2018 (Table 1, 2).

Our Editorial Board also performed multiple training activities on scientific writing and publishing during various otorhinolaryngology and head & neck surgery meetings in Turkey. We have organized two workshops in 38th and 39th

annual meetings with the contributions of the Turkish Society of Otorhinolaryngology and Head & Neck Surgery. The workshops were titled "Future of Turkish Otorhinolaryngology Publishing" and "Scientific Paper Writing". Also a panel session "ask the editor" was held in the 40<sup>th</sup> annual meeting. Authors of three best research articles and three outstanding reviewers of each year were presented with awards and certificates by our national society. We wish to continue these activities in 2019, especially targeting our younger colleagues.

The most important development that emerged with our journal with the first issue of 2019 is the change of the publication language to English. English is considered to be the language of science internationally and publication in English is inevitable for a journal like ours which is trying to make an international impact. We anticipate that this change, which will benefit us in terms of time, labor and cost in publishing processes, will also indirectly facilitate the inclusion of our journal in major international directories or indexes.

Increasing the quality of the articles published in TAO is very important for the journal's citation activity which is a very significant factor in the calculation of our journal's impact on our field. For this reason, we trust that our contributors will continue providing us with the high quality research papers and thorough and constructive evaluations also in 2019.

We would like to thank our readers, authors, reviewers for the great support they have provided during the last few years, our national society for their unswerving contributions, and finally our publisher, which we have worked with in close collaboration.

Sincerely,

Taner Kemal Erdağ, MD