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Editorial

Scientific researches and academic publishing during the coronavirus pandemic

Coronavirüs pandemisinde bilimsel araştırmalar ve akademik yayıncılık

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Humanity has been put under one of the major life threats by SARS-CoV-2 infection, which emerged in Wuhan city in the people's republic of China in December 2019 and spread all over the world. By the time this letter was written (mid-September 2020), 29 million people globally had been infected with COVID-19 and 925.000 people had lost their lives. Currently, salvation of humanity from this pandemic and this "enemy against humanity" virus, as WHO states, is only possible by scientific researches and sharing of the data obtained from these researches with the whole scientific world (1, 2).

Following occurrence of the first infection in December 2019, the agent causing this different infection was demonstrated in approximately two weeks with scientific researches. The infectious agent which caused this disease was similar to the agent of SARS infection, which we have known since the beginning of the 2000s, but had certain differences. Therefore, this new agent was named SARS-CoV-2 and the picture of infection was named COVID-19 infection. Subsequently, nearly 54000 case reports and clinical research studies related to this subject, have been published in the PubMed database up to the present. Possibly, the scientific world has never been involved in such an intense production process until now. Owing to these scientific researches, humanity is in a struggle for overcoming these dark days. Science is pursuing the effort to carry humanity again to good and happy days. As a matter of fact, science and art are the greatest achievements obtained by humanity up to the present. Science and art jointly try to do everything in the best way for humanity (3, 4).

In terms of COVID-19, the most important effort is being actualized with vaccine studies conducted throughout the world. Nowadays, nearly ten phase-3 vaccine trials are being conducted. In addition, nearly 100 vaccine studies are continuing. In the light of science, humanity will rapidly leave these dark days behind.

All these experiences once again have shown us the great significance of science for humanity just as art. In the history, humanity has always overcome the darkest days with the help of science and reached new good days. One of the most important points in the mutual adventure of science and humanity, is sharing of scientific information and inheritance of this shared information to future generations for good days in the future. At this point, academic publishing is the greatest supporter of scientists. There are very interesting stories in the history of academic publishing which continues to successfully serve humanity and scientists for about 200 years. The first article related to "relativity theory" written by Albert Einstein, the most important scientist who has lived under the sun up to today, was initially refused by a few journals at the beginning of 1910s. With publication of this research later on, the scientific life evolved to a different point. Therefore, academic publishing still takes on the most important role in scientists' lives. Activities of scientists are presented by the research studies they publish and by way of publication of these articles in important scientific journals. It is especially very important that all studies published during the period of Coronavirus pandemic, have been included in scientific journals in "open-access" format. Publication of numerous scientific

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researches during this period has also disclosed ethical problems. Some studies which were considered important and published, were retracted from very important journals (3–5). Owing to all these data, the most important point in academic publishing is an unfailing adherence to ethics committees in both pediatrics and other fields of medicine. Scientific researches conducted with adherence to ethics committees will prevent extinction of nature, and a life compatible with nature will be initiated in solidarity for the whole humanity.

In the meantime, a reassignment occurred, and me and my friends assumed the position at the "TURKISH ARCHIVES of PEDIATRICS" which is one of the important general pediatrics journals in our country and across the world. Primarily, we aimed to establish new instructions for our journal, which you can find at our web site, and thus, to increase our journal's effectiveness and readability. Our primary objective is to make an effort to pursue our publication life with adherence to all universal ethical standards. Standing shoulder to shoulder with journals which possess a success story in our country and obtaining their recommendations, have also become one of the very important starting points for us (6). In conclusion, we will consider ourselves happy, if we can carry our journal to the point where it will take its rightful place in the scientific world in a few years. We feel proud to share our journal's principle of rapid and effective publishing with our colleagues throughout the world.

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