

**Corresponding author:**

Sorin T. Barbu, MD, PhD  
University of Medicine and  
Pharmacy "Iuliu Hatieganu"  
18, Republicii Street, Cluj-Napoca  
400015, Romania  
E-mail: [tbarbu@umfcluj.ro](mailto:tbarbu@umfcluj.ro)

Dear colleagues and readers of the journal *Chirurgia*,

It gives us great pleasure to welcome you all to the 3<sup>rd</sup> issue of the journal in 2018, which is dedicated to the pancreas and to pancreatic surgery. We are honoured to present you this issue that we have coordinated, and which contains an excellent selection of reviews and original papers, surgical techniques and case reports, that we hope will be a source of pleasure to individual readers.

Pancreatic diseases, inflammatory and tumours (solid or cystic, benign or malignant) are an aggressive group of gastrointestinal disease, which, despite the exponential growth of medical science in all fields, remain unpredictable, costly, and difficult to manage, with high morbidity and mortality. Surgery plays an important role in the multidisciplinary treatment of these diseases.

We wish to thank our pancreatic surgeon friends from all over Europe for promptly responding to our invitation and writing Invited Reviews for this issue:

The Dutch Pancreatitis Study Group (Marc Besselink), will address the "Management of infected pancreatic necrosis", which is the most frequent indication for interventional treatment in necrotic pancreatitis, and which suffered, in the last decade, considerable changes regarding the timing and interventional methods;

The Hamburg team (Jakob Izbicki) offered us the paper "Surgery for Chronic pancreatitis – state of the art -", providing us with an excellent up to date on indications, timing, procedures used in chronic pancreatitis management and their results;

The Verona team (Claudio Bassi, Roberto Salvia and all friends from Instituto del Pancreas) wrote the review "Pancreatic cancer in the era of neoadjuvant therapy: a narrative overview", presenting the place that neoadjuvant chemotherapy already has today, and where it tend to go in the future;

Ferdinand Bauer, an excellent imagist from Germany, offered us the review on imaging of cystic pancreatic neoplasm, discussing different diagnostic methods as indications for surgery according to the guidelines.

We have 2 more reviews from the Fundeni surgical team in Bucharest, one addressing the role of mesopancreas excision in pancreaticoduodenectomy for cancer according to the actual evidence, and a second one, trying to answer the question "Is hepatitis B virus a player in pancreatic cancer?".

We wish to thank all surgical teams from Bucharest, Cluj, Iasi and Craiova who contributed to this issue providing reviews, original papers, case reports, surgical techniques and images for surgeons.

Inside this 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018 issue of *Chirurgia*, readers can find high quality papers, all of which were externally peer-reviewed. We are delighted that you are joining us as readers and hope you will also join us as contributors in the near future.

*Sorin T. Barbu & Cornel Iancu*  
*University of Medicine & Pharmacy "Iuliu Hatieganu" Cluj*