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## Editorial

## Featured papers in the October Issue



In the October Issue of the *American Journal of Surgery* (AJS,) we feature the manuscripts listed below:

**Delving Deeper into Disparity: The Impact of Health Literacy on the Surgical Care of Breast Cancer Patients.** Portelli Tremont and colleagues summarize the current knowledge regarding health literacy in breast cancer. They identify future directions for research and potential intervention in breast surgical oncology<sup>1</sup> with an editorial from Lauren Theiss and Dan Chu.<sup>2</sup>

**Post-Thyroidectomy Emergency Room Visits and Readmissions: Assessment from the Collaborative Endocrine Surgery Quality Improvement Program (CESQIP).** Taye and colleagues analyze independent factors associated with post-thyroidectomy emergency room visits and hospital readmissions.<sup>3</sup> There is an editorial from Toni Beninato and Amanda M. Laird.<sup>4</sup>

**Surgeon Experience and Opioid Prescribing.** Santosa and colleagues evaluate the effects of surgeon characteristics such as surgeon experience on differences in opioid prescribing after surgery.<sup>5</sup> They demonstrate that surgeon characteristics such as cumulative years of practice contribute to differences in prescribing behavior, with an editorial from Willemijn Schäfer and Jonah Stulberg.<sup>6</sup>

**Significant Morbidity Is Associated With Proximal Fecal Diversion Among High-Risk Patients Who Undergo Colectomy: A NSQIP Analysis.** Chang and colleagues perform a review of the NSQIP database to examine the impact of a diverting loop ileostomy (DLI) in high-risk patients. They found that significant thirty-day morbidity exists with a DLI among high-risk colectomy patients with minimal benefit in anastomotic leak rates.<sup>7</sup> There is an editorial from Drew Gunnells and Greg Kennedy.<sup>8</sup>

**Robotic intraperitoneal onlay versus totally extraperitoneal (TEP) retromuscular mesh ventral hernia repair: A Propensity score matching analysis of short-term outcomes.** Kudsi and colleagues present data suggesting that Robotic TEP-RM repair has better early postoperative outcomes for ventral hernias, suggesting that it may be preferable over robotic IPOM repair.<sup>9</sup> Ajita Prabhu provides an invited commentary.<sup>10</sup>

**Eight “My Thoughts/My Surgical Practice” Articles.** We are highlighting these eight thought-provoking editorials: COVID 19: Surgery & the question of race,<sup>11</sup> Reforming our general surgery residency program at an urban level 1 Trauma Center during the COVID-19 pandemic: Towards maintaining resident safety and wellbeing,<sup>12</sup> COVID-19 and surgical training in Italy: Residents and young consultants perspectives from the battlefield,<sup>13</sup> The volume of recyclable polyethylene terephthalate plastic in operating rooms,<sup>14</sup> Immersive Virtual Reality in surgery and medical

education: diving into the future,<sup>15</sup> Educational benefits of an acute care surgery rotation during the medical student surgical clerkship,<sup>16</sup> Do We Know Our Patients' Goals? Evaluating Preoperative Discussions in Emergency Surgery<sup>17</sup> and General Surgery Trainee Perception of Early Specialization Programs.<sup>18</sup>

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