

Response to Letter “Regarding Development of a Surgical Video Atlas for Resident Education: 3-Year Experience”

DOI: 10.1177/2473974X20959277

We thank the authors for their letter regarding our experiences in developing a high-quality surgical video atlas in conjunction with the *Journal of Medical Insight (JOMI)*.

We believe that their letter provides valuable insight into the challenges and considerations surgeons may face in either producing their own video library or seeking a new source of material from which to learn. The Mayo Clinic library of videos is indeed well suited to complement those of our own, and we hope that these endeavors influence more institutions to consider pursuing similar avenues for video publications. There are several key aspects of their letter that we feel are important to address.

In regard to the narration process and concise nature of Mayo Clinic videos, we recognize the efficiency that this provides. The goal of *JOMI* is to offer “masterclasses,” or “virtual shadowing sessions,” to allow viewers the sense of being in the operating room. Our multiple camera views, intraoperative narration, and full-length surgical cases attempt to capture this “operating theater” experience. Our involvement with *JOMI* has allowed us to offload some of the more complex technological aspects of viewpoint synchronization and animation to a team of professional video editors. While absolute control at each step of video production has inherent value, by publishing through *JOMI*, we ensure a level unbiased critique of the video and text, as they are reviewed by 2 separate peer reviewers before reaching “publication” status. This comprehensive process does necessitate a significant investment of resources into postproduction.

To that end, it is important to note that any user can access the entire video library of *JOMI* videos simply by creating an account, allowing for maximum accessibility.

Subscriptions are sought after initial usage is allowed with a preference for institutional subscriptions.¹ This business model allows the journal to sustain the project, ensuring continuity and evolution. In addition, *JOMI* is a part of HINARI, a program established by the World Health Organization and major publishers to ensure accessibility of biomedical and health literature to developing countries.² This allows any user from any developing country, as defined by the WHO, full and free access to the journal.

We are excited that other institutions are also dedicated to the development of alternative learning methods for medical students, residents, and surgeons around the world. We hope that further collaboration may allow for an objective assessment of the benefit these videos have on otolaryngology residents.

Clifford Scott Brown, MD

*Department of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery,
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine,
Miami, Florida, USA*

Calhoun D. Cunningham, MD

Walter T. Lee, MD, MHS

Liana Puscas, MD, MHS

*Department of Head and Neck Surgery &
Communication Sciences, Duke University Medical Center,
Durham, North Carolina, USA*

Disclosures

Competing interests: Clifford Scott Brown works as chief medical editor for the *Journal of Medical Insight*.

Sponsorships: None.

Funding source: None.

References

- Bernstein N. Post-value pricing. *J Med Insight*. <https://jomi.com/post-value-pricing>. Accessed August 18, 2020.
- Research4Life: Our commitment to universal access to medical research. *Lancet*. <https://www.thelancet.com/research4life>. Accessed August 17, 2020.

