

# In the right place at the right time

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Since its early beginnings in 1953, when the Chapter for Hand Surgery was created under the Argentine Association of Orthopedics and Traumatology, and then after its foundation in 1974, our Association's goal has been "to study, research, perfect and disseminate this branch of surgery fostering the scientific dialog between similar associations within and without Argentina."

Writing and publishing a scientific paper constitutes one of the researchers' most important and altruistic academic endeavors, as it diffuses (from Latin *diffundere*, to spread in all directions) medical knowledge.

The path followed by our Association has witnessed not only the passing of legacy down from generation to generation, but also a great amount of valuable contributions to the specialty development made by its members. Up to this day, this path had conceived several projects that for various reasons and circumstances had failed to funnel that knowledge through our very own dissemination body, one which could prevail through time. However, that legacy is likely to be the responsible for the erection of a pyramid that relies on a wide base of enthusiastic doctors, who are willing to take the next step and play a leading role in a new chapter of our Association history, the making of a long-standing journal supplement that will reflect its members' views and knowledge.

The Journal of the Argentine Association of Orthopedics and Traumatology (RAAOT), our parent association, stands as an historic South American benchmark and is marching on with steady step toward indexing. Publishing as many original research papers as possible is a mandatory step toward this goal, and the RAAOT invites its member associations to contribute and offers an unprecedented context to be the dissemination vehicle of our members' knowledge.

Any project starting point required an initial resolution, to be willing to take a step forward. That first step, even when aimless or of unclear destination, may become a transcendental event that only with the passing of time will be acknowledged as such, with that veil provided by distance and embellished by history.

Accordingly, our profound respect to an outstanding group of people who, having risen to the challenge, have devoted time, energy, creativity, and teamwork in a responsible and altruistic manner and have made the project a reality.

To be punctual entails not being late or tardy, but also encompasses not to be ahead of time, but at the opportune moment.

This supplement produced by the Argentine Association for Surgery of the Hand is not a matter of chance, nor an unexpected event, but the inescapable outcome of a unrelenting and resolute enterprise undertaken by our Association, the realization of all previous efforts from which it stems and, as such, becomes a reality when ripe.

In other words, in the right place at the right time.

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