

# Starting over. Will it be the same as before?

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In recent years, with the pandemic punishing the entire world, we have all experienced situations of greater restriction in our activities. From the simplest and most everyday things (such as walks down the street, visits to relatives or friends, or taking the dog for a walk) to access to health –undoubtedly, of fundamental importance—all aspects of our lives were affected by this circumstance.

The new restrictions have reduced or modified access to medical education. For almost two years, there were no face-to-face meetings, conferences, courses or assignments, and we were forced to start with a new virtual modality in which, unwillingly, we became accustomed to seeing ourselves on small grid screens of one of the so many existing virtual platforms.

It is fundamental for me to highlight the emphasis, commitment, and excellent achievements in educational matters that AAOT as well as ACARO have made and continue to make. The contributions of the AAOT or the ACARO are frequently questioned –incorrectly, according to my vision. Being involved for many years in both directive commissions, I consider that I can contribute my point of view in this regard. The focus of both boards of directors on educational matters is indisputable. They have organized conferences and courses in towns and cities all over the country (such as Tilcara, Ushuaia, Iguazú, San Martín de los Andes, etc.), as well as cadaveric courses, visits to hospital centers, validation of residency programs, certification programs, and the list could go on.

It should be noted that this enormous and federal educational offer is, in most cases, free, an important fact in these times of economic uncertainty.

All of this would have not been achieved without the effort and dedication of the people involved in the committees, regional headquarters, members of the associations and, of course, the staff of both associations, because without them, none of this would be possible.

To conclude, in these new and pleasant moments of reunion, I want us to take into account the difficult and sad situations that some have gone through, and I express my deepest wish for the creation and support of new family, friendship and work relationships that are strong, genuine and full of solidarity.

I am convinced that these new times will not be the same; it is up to us to make them better.

I greet you affectionately.

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