

# 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the AAOT Library

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*Chair of the Library Committee*



The 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the AAOT Library finds me as Chair of the Committee (period 2021-2025) and, in general terms, it comes at a historical turning point. In this sense, the spectacular technological and scientific innovations, as well as the profound geopolitical, economic, and socio-cultural transformations that began steadily in the early 1980s and are becoming more acute this far into the 21st century, become the natural framework for the real revolution that is currently taking place in the field of scientific communication and dissemination in 2020, spurred by the pandemic and confinement.

In this context, and as a reminder of the Library's origins, it is worth noting that it was established in November 1983 at the initiative of the Continuing Medical Education Committee, then led by Dr. Carlos L. Aiello, and opened its doors to the local orthopedic community on September 1, 1986. Already at that time, the library had bibliographic material published at the dawn of the Association, which today is treasured in an archive containing publications from 1936 onwards. Throughout these 40 years, it has followed each of the transcendental communicational advances that have taken place: from the materialization of scientific information by means of photocopies of textbooks and journals, through technological advances such as video cassettes and CD-ROMs, to the emergence of the Internet. In 2023, between January and August of this year, 3000 of bibliographic searches were carried out virtually. In the same vein, it is worth mentioning the availability of scientific platforms that offer users full-text access, as well as the possibility of subscriptions to publications in general orthopedics and traumatology, and in different subspecialties.

The aforementioned transformations, which have been unconditionally supported by the AAOT authorities for the past 40 years, enable the Library to provide a service with unfailingly updated material and the unavoidable premise of raising its hierarchy, always at the pinnacle of the expectations generated by the fact that it is Argentina's only one of its kind.


Today, after 40 years of existence, the AAOT Library has an active social media presence and an outstanding website (<https://aaot.org.ar/biblioteca-aaot/>), and is represented by a Committee composed of six orthopedists and two prominent and renowned librarians, Verónica Mauceri (in office since 1988) and Silvina Dicranian (since 1997). In the implicit words of one of the outstanding professionals who collaborate in the tribute that is currently being carried out on the occasion of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary (<https://aaot.org.ar/40-anos-1983-2023/>), they are the guardians of the soul of our institution, enthusiastic promoters of this work of revision and reflection on the proactive spirit of our specialty, which is reflected in the reviews that make up this space:

1 Adolescent kyphoscoliosis in 80 years and more. Prof. Dr. Gutiérrez M. Ángeles

2 Functional Treatment of Clubfoot. Dr. Fernández Claudio A.

3 AAOT Library. From the pioneers of shoulder surgery to the present day. Dr. Daniel Moya

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Well into the middle of the third decade of this century, our idiosyncrasy in general presents the excessive and feverish pulse of Zygmunt Bauman's elusive liquid world (Liquid Times, 2007). Regarding our specialty, Orthopedics and Traumatology, we have progressed from the time of the Library's creation when the "AO" experience was a challenge for many orthopedists who were still focused on the advances made after WWII, to the 40th anniversary, when the professional perspective has become more versatile, vast, and audacious, to the point of dreaming of biological therapies and regenerative medicine.

Given this turning point and, why not, venturing into the Bauman universe... what better than our Library to shape the liquid world —of scientific research, academic knowledge, collegiate experience, shared knowledge— and lay it at our feet?

## REFERENCES

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