

# The Pursuit of Excellence

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Every academic institution's activities are supported by at least three main pillars: education, community outreach, and research.

The first spine society in Latin America, Sociedad Argentina de Patología de la Columna Vertebral (SAPCV), has a long educational trajectory in the field. This includes biannual courses, ongoing physician training in accredited services, and classroom and online training activities both within and outside of SAPCV and AAOT congresses.

The second pillar, community outreach, was historically limited to the care provided to our patients. However, since 2022, we have embraced a new paradigm in this area. We incorporated communication professionals, renewed our image, website and social media, and got involved with the community to carry out prevention activities. We instituted the "Spine Week and Day" to commemorate the founding date of our Society. We brought together prominent figures from the arts, sports, and other fields to launch preventive campaigns and raise awareness. I must say that it was a success, and the current president, Dr. Pablo Plater, has ensured its continuation.

The third pillar is clinical and laboratory research conducted by our members, the results of which are presented in publications and at congresses. We encourage communication in our language on the results obtained, make tenure more accessible to accredited members, and increase the amount of time spent on scientific paper presentations at congresses. This resulted in a historic record of over 120 works received, including award-winning papers, presentations, and posters. This prompted the AAOT Journal's Editorial Committee to provide us with the exceptional opportunity to publish an exclusive issue on spine, so the Board of Directors immediately began working on this project, which has resulted in an excellent quality issue.

Without intending to, this is my final task as President of the SAPCV and marks the transition of authority to the new Board of Directors.

I would like to acknowledge the Editor and my personal friend, Dr. Ernesto Bersusky, and the young and brilliant spine specialist, Dr. Guillermo Ricciardi, as well as all of the journal's physicians and staff, for their daily efforts to provide us with quality readings in the orthopedic field.

I hope you enjoy this issue as much as I did.

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