

University of Louisville

Journal of Respiratory Infections



EDITORIALS

A New Journal Section: Patient Management

Forest W. Arnold, MD; Rodrigo Cavallazzi, MD

Section Editors

DOI: 10.18297/jri/vol1/iss3/2

© 2017, The Author(s).



In this issue of the *University of Louisville Journal of Respiratory Infections*, we start a new section called "Patient Management." We wish to garner cases to capture a worldwide perspective of how faculties approach patients in different regions. For this reason, we are not necessarily looking for cases with unusual etiologies of respiratory infection; discussion on the clinical presentation and management of a patient with a common diagnosis can be interesting, too. We want to see how practitioners in one region manage a certain patient. We want to learn what authors think about when managing a patient, how they develop skills, and what their scientific approach is.

This section can also produce new research ideas, as discussion will lead to questions that may only be adequately answered by an inquiry of a population database. This is one of the purposes that the Community-Acquired Pneumonia Organization research database serves, as it may be appropriate for some of these inquiries.

We invite a variety of contributions for this section:

- Case Report
- Case Series
- Case Discussion
- Second Opinion

A Case Report or Case Series should have an emphasis on the actual discussion that took place between colleagues regarding patient management. This is in contrast to a discussion section that accompanies a traditional case report or case series, which includes the presentation of a disease in a typical patient, a large literature search, etc. - things that one can read in a textbook. We are more interested in the specific management of a disease than general disease information.

The Case Discussion should address a topic without the typical preceding presentation of a clinical case or case series, but may begin with a patient scenario to provide context for discussion.

The Second Opinion asks a clinical management question, followed by the authors' approach. We will then have an invited

expert provide their approach to the same question and provide comparisons and contrasts from their own perspective.

In this issue of the journal, we introduce this new section with the publication of a Case Discussion. You will notice that the clinical case is presented in a conversational style, reviewing the discussion that took place at our patient management conference. Prior to our conference, the presenter distributed the history of the patient with some basic laboratory values for the fellows to review so that they could organize their thoughts. The fellows and the faculties discussing the case were not informed of the final diagnosis prior to the conference. The discussion was audiotaped and text was reviewed, edited and arranged as you see it in this issue.

As section editors, we are here to recruit authors from all over the world to submit case reports, case series, case discussions or second opinions, and to offer support. For this section, we will practice an unconventional submission process by allowing a pre-submission draft to help direct the presentation of the case record. We also offer librarian services to review for English grammar assistance.

We hope you enjoy this issue's new Patient Management section, and look forward to learning what is discussed in your patient management conferences.

Sincerely,

Forest W. Arnold, DO, MSC
Associate Professor
University of Louisville
Division of Infectious Diseases

Rodrigo Cavallazzi, MD
Associate Professor
University of Louisville
Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care & Sleep Disorders Medicine