EDITORIAL

As 2008 draws to a close we present you with our final edition for this year. We have two articles on peri-operative pain management, something which we as anaesthesiologists do not seem to manage terribly well. The first article is a study from Tunisian colleagues comparing paravertebral block with continuous intercostal nerve block after thoracotomy, and the second is a practical and comprehensive review by Jenny Thomas on peri-operative pain management, particularly in children.

Our colleagues from Stellenbosch share two interesting studies with us. The first is a comparison between two formulations of propofol, where the two products are found to be pharmacologically equivalent. Importantly, however, is the discussion on the reasons for the variability in clinical response following “bolus” administration. The other study is a clinical comparison of disposable airway devices, which may provide a useful reference guide when faced with choosing an airway device from the plethora of devices that is available to us.

We have published two articles from Nigeria; one is an interesting observational study performed on charcoal-roasted plantain and fish vendors in Port Harcourt, and the other is a practical comparison between the effects of promethazine versus ondansetron as antiemetics in major gynaecological surgery.

The pressor response to laryngoscopy and intubation has troubled anaesthesiologists for years. Kiran from India has evaluated the effect of gabapentin in attenuating this response in normotensive patients undergoing elective surgery, with interesting results. We trust you will find new knowledge and something of interest in this edition.

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Editor-in-Chief

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