Editorial

It is a great privilege to be part of the Ian Donald School, but it is a unique privilege to write an editorial for the Donald School Journal of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology (Yellow Journal). Mainly, because this journal is one of the proudest achievements of the Ian Donald School and it is a gift from Ian Donald School to anyone who wants to increase his knowledge and experience in ultrasound in obstetrics and gynecology, anyone who wants to learn. That is anyone who wants to be part of the Ian Donald family. A family that due to the huge efforts of all its members, but firstly due to its founders and directors Professor Asim Kurjak and Professor Frank Chervenak now counts more than 70 branches all over the world and works for the education of physicians and medical staff globally.

Today’s obstetricians have a very useful tool in their hands, that they can easily use in their everyday clinical practice, ultrasound. We can now detect fetal abnormalities much earlier than in the past and we can even study fetal behavior and fetal neurology with four dimensional (4D) ultrasound. However, problems in management of classical obstetrical cases have not disappeared entirely, we still have great dilemmas on how we should manage and counsel certain cases and we cannot deny that in the as far as it concerns one of the greatest obstetrical syndromes, that is preterm labor, the data show that we have made as much progress as we would expect. Ultrasound is a very important clinical tool permitting study of the fetus, the placenta, the whole antenatal period, but even labor itself and postpartum period. What we need is more knowledge, we need to know how to obtain our information and how to use them for the best of our patients.

‘Anyone who is satisfied with his diagnostic ability and with his surgical results is unlikely to contribute much to the launching of a new medical science. He should first be consumed with a divine discontent with things as they are. It greatly helps, of course, to have the right idea at the right time, and quite good ideas may come, Archimedes fashion, in one’s bath.’ — Ian Donald

We hope that in this special issue of the Yellow Journal we can provide useful review articles and original papers regarding cases of special interest in obstetrics, which are always puzzling for our everyday clinical practice, such as preterm labor, invasive procedures, perineal ultrasound, etc. It is clear that these areas of obstetrics and perinatal medicine will always be of great interest and we always search for the best evidence-based information for the best of our patients and of course the best possible outcome for the mothers and their babies that trust their health in us.

We really hope that you will enjoy this issue of the Yellow Journal and we very much look forward to see you all in Athens, Greece in the 7th Ian Donald School Advanced Course of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology, at 11 to 13th December, 2015.

Panos Antsaklis