

EDITORIAL



Dear colleagues,

All of us this year found ourselves in a completely new reality. We have to cope with the outbreak of COVID-19. Health care systems in many countries proved to be not ready for a pandemic. This costed patients and doctors their lives.

Let me thank, on behalf of the Editorial Board, all doctors that have risked their lives and have rescued and are going on to rescue lives of their patients.

Today, in many countries, despite surge in coronavirus cases, the restrictions are eased and life is returning to normal. However, we understand that the world has changed and we still have to live with restrictions. In particular, we have to limit physical contact and communication, whereas the educational process has been transferred online by using video, smartphones and social networks.

This occurs not only as a result of the pandemic but it reflects the spirit of the time: life and business are becoming more digital. Medicine is one of the fields, where the potential of digitalization has already been used widely. For instance, Digital Supply Act adopted in Germany on Dec. 19, 2019 enables to render a series of measures such as health apps, digital medical reports and online consultations.

Many patients have already started to use health apps, for instance, for timely intake of medications or monitoring blood sugar levels. Doctors are allowed to prescribe medications using smartphone applications.

The Act foresees many other new applications for doctors and patients. Doctors will get initial funding for conducting video consultations with patients. It should promote a further extension of the online services. The services of distant consulting are provided for home care patients and are paid from non-budget sources. To implement this, doctors can place corresponding offers on their websites.

Of course, such form of medical services cannot fully substitute physical connection between doctor and patient but may significantly improve the consultant-patient relationship. Besides, deeper knowledge of different formats and online methods is therefore required.

We should evaluate the experience we are living through today as a lesson that is not only going to transform our future. It is a lesson that accelerates digital transformation in medicine and dramatically changes the forms of rendering medical services in future.

Yours,

Editor-in-Chief
Dr. Georg Tyminski

<http://dx.doi.org/10.35630/2199-885X/2020/10/2.Ed002>



Dear clinicians, research fellows, colleagues and friends!

Multitude of nosological forms, their individuality and variability among different patients — all this make the process of diagnosis fairly complicated. Moreover, the outcome of a treatment depends on knowledge and skills of a doctor, which may often be insufficient.

Therefore, a special attention in clinical medicine is paid to the latest achievements in biology, physics, chemistry, as well as in engineering and electronics. Thus, objective testing methods, which are incorporated in clinical practice, extend the volume and enhance the informativeness of acquired data.

The feasibility for development of clinical laboratory diagnosis or laboratory medicine is determined by emerging technologies for in vitro testing of human biomaterials using hematologic, general clinical, parasitic, biochemical, immunological, serological and many other methods of laboratory examinations.

In modern health care system, 70% of medical decisions, practically in all clinical disciplines, are based on laboratory results. Laboratory tests are responsible for not less than 93% of objective diagnostic examinations; they are included into the programs of obligatory checkups as well as in standards of medical treatments for most somatic symptoms.

The results of laboratory tests have a special priority for early and accurate detection of the signs of pathological conditions. They establish an evidence-based approach to solution of social and legal issues. The contribution of laboratory tests to the development of evidence medicine is indisputable.

Among most important components of laboratory medicine, a special place belongs to the pathobiological section, which is based on fundamental theoretical knowledge and advancements, a section of laboratory (clinical) analytics dealing with systemization of the means and methods for conducting the tests. It also contains a section of clinical-laboratory diagnosis, which gives evidence on the informativeness of laboratory data and solutions for concrete medical problems.

Interdisciplinary interaction between laboratory clinical diagnosis and general therapy, gastroenterology, pulmonology, endocrinology, pediatrics, cardiology, neurology, nephrology, dentistry takes place as a rapidly growing cooperation, promoting incorporation of innovative technologies, extension of medical knowledge and update of methods of early diagnosis.

Today, laboratory diagnostics demands even more differentiation of the object and methods of diagnostics. Therefore, it is so important to join the efforts of laboratory doctors and clinicians brought together by an interdisciplinary approach.

Adding the section *Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics* to the journal *Archiv Euromedica* will highlight new publications on such subjects as preclinical verification of pathology, differential diagnosis of clinical manifestations, assessing the efficiency of preventive and therapeutic measures.

Executive Editor

Prof. Dmitry Domenyuk