

EDITORIAL



Paulo Donato

Nowadays there is a standardization of opinion in our society. The implementation of the “streamline thought culture” is most likely related to current information dissemination systems, which being true for society in general, is also true for scientific dissemination.

Opinion makers associated with mass information vehicles condition a common sense of what is socially acceptable, with little disclosure for the diversity of thoughts and even low tolerance for their acceptance.

If times of greater diversity in culture have resulted in a more fruitful activity, development of new musical, literary and artistic genres. If in biology it is acceptable that greater diversity leads to a greater adaptation capacity. In medicine, the current order is to guide procedures and practices according to international recommendations.

Ever since I've been a radiologist, I have seen the development of techniques that were initially performed outside of indication, outside of what was the usual practice and which, due to their characteristics and virtues, won their place.

Paradigmatic examples are the implementation of the diagnosis by virtual colonoscopy with CT, initially seen with suspicion in screening colorectal carcinoma or, more recently, the implementation of the treatment of benign prostatic hyperplasia by endovascular embolization.

Along the way, countless techniques were disseminated, performed, but whose “virtuosity” was not proven. I remember the quantification of coronary calcium by a machine with very specific characteristics such as EBCT,

virtual upper gastrointestinal endoscopy by CT and a panoply of intervention procedures where the angioplasty of non-stenosed central veins in the treatment of multiple sclerosis is a representative example.

Through this path of diversity, it is possible to find and take advantage of the intrinsic characteristics of each equipment and to adapt them to an increasingly directed clinical indication. It is possible, without damaging the best treatment at the indicated time, to find a new therapeutic option.

The Acta Radiológica Portuguesa should remain a place for the dissemination not only of unusual and representative clinical cases, but also of specific clinical procedures and applications, namely those carried out by radiologists of our country.

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