

Editorial

The Expanding Armamentarium: Precision, Preservation, and Palliation

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It is my privilege to present this latest issue of the Journal of Peripheral Nerve Surgery at a pivotal moment in our field's evolution. As peripheral nerve surgeons, we have historically defined success primarily by motor reinnervation via neurotization. However, this issue broadens that paradigm, embracing both cutting-edge technology for acute injury and the vital functional palliation required for managing chronic sequelae such as pain and spasticity.

We begin by exploring the technological frontier of robotic brachial plexus surgery. The integration of these platforms is no longer a mere novelty; rather, it offers enhanced visualization and degrees of freedom allowing for the dissection of corridors previously deemed hazardous. This evolution heralds a new era of surgical precision and safety.

Yet, anatomical mastery remains our cornerstone, particularly in brachial plexus tumor surgery. The challenge of

enucleating complex sheath tumors while preserving fascicular integrity mandates a tactile feedback and steadiness of hand that no robotic system can yet fully replicate. This issue addresses the delicate balance between macroscopic resection and true functional preservation, detailing the surgical nuances required for success.

Finally, we turn our attention to patients for whom standard repair is not enough—those suffering from debilitating chronic complications. We spotlight ablative functional procedures, specifically DREZotomy (dorsal root entry zone rhizotomy) for spasticity and rhizotomy for intractable pain. By effectively managing these symptoms, we offer “functional palliation” to patients, providing a quality of life that nerve transfers alone often cannot achieve.

This issue reflects the expanding armamentarium of the modern peripheral nerve surgeon—technically progressive, anatomically precise, and deeply compassionate.

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