Introduction

The instructions for cancer operations by the accomplished surgeon Galen in the second century AD were to “make accurate incisions surrounding the entire tumor as not to leave a single root.”

Progress in the management of cancer surgery wasn’t very significant until the mid-19th century when Dr Rudolf Virchow published his book, Cellular Pathology, in 1958, which is considered the pioneer work of modern Pathology.

Both Galen and Virchow believed in the surgical management of specific malignant tumors, which should be resected with clean margins.

Dr Joshua Lubek and Dr Kelly Magliocca have both edited an outstanding issue for the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinics of North America on the Evaluation of the Surgical Margin, addressing subjects like molecular markers of the margins, the challenges of the bone margin, and the bridging between pathology and surgery in order to improve the communication and understanding between the two professional disciplines.

The authors of each article represent the highest level of academic integrity, honesty, knowledge, and critical thinking. They have a commitment to share their experience with their peers in a selfless fashion in order to improve education without biased thoughts and with scientific rigor.

This issue fulfills the objective of scientific curiosity and education. This brings me to a different subject: Education is eternal, immortal. It lives forever, transmitted from generation to generation. It enhances knowledge and understanding. In this specific case, it makes me incredibly proud. Both of the editors, Kelly Magliocca and Josh Lubek, were trainees at the University of Michigan while I was leading the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. I had the unique opportunity to provide them with professional guidance and personal advice. They are part of my extended family, and when I see their achievements, I do smile with happiness.

There is no greater satisfaction in academic life than to see your former interns, residents, and fellows succeed and become the leaders and the best!

Thank you for becoming who you are now!

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