Greetings From the Editor of *Clinical Thyroidology*

DEAR COLLEAGUES,

Happy New Year! As we enter 2020, I am thrilled to share that there are many new features in store for the journal—starting with the current issue. Our primary focus remains highlighting the major issues impacting the clinical management of patients with thyroid disease. However, in addition to our reviews/commentaries of the most impactful papers appearing in the current thyroid literature, I am also excited to share several new developments, including:

► **New Associate Editors:** We warmly welcome several new folks to our growing multidisciplinary, international editorial board and look forward to learning from their expertise: **Dr. Bernadette Biondi** from the University of Naples Federico II Medical School, Naples, Italy; **Dr. Tyler Drake** from the University of Minnesota and the Minneapolis VA Healthcare System; **Dr. Benjamin Gigliotti** from the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, U.S.A.; **Dr. Shashank Joshi** from Lilavati and Bhatia Hospitals, Mumbai, India; and **Dr. Akira Miyauchi** from the Department of Surgery, Kuma Hospital, Kobe, Japan.

► **Translations:** We will be offering translations of select reviews throughout the year. The present issue includes an important study reviewed by Drs. Yasuhiro Ito and Akira Miyauchi on the potential use of serum CA 19-9 levels in the prognostication of medullary thyroid cancer, which Drs. Ito and Miyauchi have concurrently translated into Japanese for interested readers.

► **Case Reports:** In order to celebrate and highlight the excellent work by trainees, the future leaders in our field, I am pleased to have selected 10 of the 149 trainee-authored case reports presented

in Chicago at the 2019 Annual Meeting of the American Thyroid Association. These 10 case reports will be featured throughout 2020 and offer excellent, concise learning points. We begin the series in this month's issue with a report illustrating a novel use of ⁶⁸Ga-DOTATATE imaging for medullary thyroid cancer, as presented by Dr. Spandana Brown and colleagues from the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and Houston Methodist Hospital. Congratulations, Dr. Brown, on such a well-written case series!

► **Guest Editorials:** Throughout this year, I am also pleased to bring to the journal the timely coverage of issues confronting those who take care of patients with thyroid disease, through a new series of guest editorials. For example, to address the implications regarding the recent dissolution of the AACE Endocrine Certification in Neck Ultrasound (ECNU) program, next month's issue will include a perspective piece by former ECNU certification committee chair, **Dr. John Woody Sistrunk**. Please contact me if you have any suggestions for other noteworthy guest editorial topics that we can explore in future issues.

The current issue again highlights several important recently published studies in the clinical thyroid literature. In the areas of benign thyroid disease, our new associate editor and expert Dr. Bernadette Biondi reviews a study summarizing the experience from the Mayo Clinic regarding the levothyroxine absorption test in their cohort of patients with refractory and difficult-to-manage hypothyroidism. Dr. Mary Samuels provides her commentary on the success rates of antithyroid drugs, radioactive iodine, and thyroidectomy as examined in the largest longitudinal cohort of Graves' disease patients to date. In his

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review, Dr. Charles Emerson provides his viewpoints on the largest multicenter series of patients with thyroid storm to date, highlighting that amiodarone is an often overlooked precipitant of this serious condition. We then move on to pediatric thyroidology, but keeping on the topic of hyperthyroidism, Dr. Catherine Dinauer summarizes a study on the promising use of the block-and-replace regimen for Graves' disease in a pediatric cohort. The importance of avoiding both undertreatment and overtreatment of maternal hypothyroidism during pregnancy is addressed by Dr. Tim Korevaar in his review of an important follow-up study from the CATS trial.

Turning to the topics of malignant thyroid disease, Drs. Yasuhiro Ito and Akira Miyauchi, from Kuma Hospital in Japan, review a study examining the potential use of serum CA 19-9 concentrations in patients with medullary thyroid cancer; their review is also available in Japanese in the present issue. Dr. Tyler Drake then examines a study from Kuma Hospital in Japan (led by Drs. Ito, Miyauchi, and colleagues) on the use of various tumor growth metrics for the active surveillance of low-risk papillary thyroid microcarcinomas. Dr. Brian Kim also reviews an interesting report assessing the somatic genetic differences between metastatic and primary thyroid cancers—how do these differences aid our understanding of which tumors may eventually become more aggressive? In their review, Drs. Max Schumm, Michael Yeh, and Masha Livhits summarize a study of disease-free thyroid cancer patients, demonstrating that patient preference for more-intensive medical care translates into greater utilization of tests and health care resources; this study reveals opportunities in which care can be more appropriately standardized by the thyroid cancer community. Finally, our trainee case report this month features an illustrative summary by Dr. Spandana Brown and colleagues titled “Detecting the Undetectable,” an enjoyable read about three interesting patients.

This issue presents a lot of wonderful data from international experts working to bring further understanding to the complex field of clinical thyroid disease. Thank you to our global friends and readers who are connecting with us through our social media channels to discuss thoughts on our content and more. I invite you to come join the conversation:

Twitter: [@clinicalthyroid](https://twitter.com/clinicalthyroid)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ThyroidAssociation>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/american-thyroid-association>

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/thyroidorg>

Also remember that the reviews covered in *Clinical Thyroidology* are also translated into shorter lay summaries in our sister journal, *Clinical Thyroidology for the Public* (<https://www.thyroid.org/patient-thyroid-information/ct-for-patients>), that is edited by Dr. Alan Farwell and his team each month. These more-concise summaries may be helpful to patients and the public who ask about the interpretation of findings from recently published studies.

As always, thank you for reading *Clinical Thyroidology*. Please feel free to send me any questions or comments at clinicalthyroidology@thyroid.org.

Warmest regards,

Angela M. Leung, MD, MSc
Editor-in-Chief, *Clinical Thyroidology*