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# EDITORIAL

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Another year of dealing with the impact of COVID is going on. Nearly everyone has been touched by the pandemic of Omicron, and it's worthwhile to remember this impact. Researchers in South Africa and around the world are conducting studies to better understand many aspects of Omicron and will continue to share the findings of these studies as they become available. It feels like we're gradually emerging out of hibernation. May we hope that it is a year where we are all less impacted by the ongoing pandemic and begin to return to some sort of normalcy in whatever form that may now take. We have one useful article in this issue regarding COVID-19 and Surgical Preparedness.

In this issue of WJOLS we have many interesting articles. Laparoscopic Intersphincteric Resection and Colon Shaping for Low Rectal Cancer Treatment is a very informative article for colorectal surgeons. Another good paper is regarding Laparoscopic Totally Extraperitoneal Using Three-dimension Mesh to Treat Bilateral Inguinal Hernia in Adults. For gynecologists, in this issue, we don't have much information but I want to assure you that in coming issue we will have more gynecological laparoscopic articles.

Don't forget to check the website for further details and very informative high-definition laparoscopic surgery videos ([www.wjols.com](http://www.wjols.com)). I am hopeful that by the time new year 2022 rolls around we will be all able to travel without excessive restrictions and hope to see many of you. The most effective steps individuals can take to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus are to keep a physical distance of at least 1 meter from others; wear a well-fitting mask; open windows to improve ventilation; avoid poorly ventilated or crowded spaces; keep hands clean; cough or sneeze into a bent elbow or tissue, and get vaccinated when it's your turn.

Here's wishing you and your loved ones a Happy and Prosperous 2022! May the new orbit fill our hearts and our homes with healing, happiness, and smiles!

Have a great new year ahead! Stay safe!



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