Concerns Regarding Ultrasound-guided Regional Anesthesia

To the Editor—Although nerve injuries, including plexopathies, have long been reported, it is time to reflect on situations in which ultrasonic guidance has been used. We are seeing reports of plexopathies after ultrasound-guided regional anesthesia and surgery, despite visualization of the injecting needle tip well away from neural elements. At our institution, a case of brachial plexopathy after ultrasound-guided regional anesthesia recently occurred, resolving without sequelae. This disquiet has been increased by the knowledge that ultrasonic guidance for regional anesthesia is being accepted without any safety studies, efficacy studies, or equivalence studies for this particular application. For those of us involved in clinical practice communities, must continuously and critically review its advantages and disadvantages of creating this second class of article within our publication of selected articles, and we will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of creating this second class of article within our Editorial Board. As I have quickly observed, this journal, like others in medical science, must continuously and critically review its processes and products to better serve the research and clinical practice communities.

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Reference

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