

Dear Colleagues,

It was a real tragedy for Turkey to awake up the early morning on 6 February 2023, with a magnitude 7.8 earthquake that occurred in southern Turkey. It was followed approximately nine hours later by a magnitude of 7.5 earthquake located in the same area including 11 cities as Adıyaman, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş, Kilis, Osmaniye, Gaziantep, Malatya, Şanlıurfa, Diyarbakır, Elazığ, and Adana. In these cities almost 14 million people were living. These two earthquakes produced more than 200 aftershocks, some were really severe. According to the latest statements, more than 50,000 people died and more than 100,000 people were injured after these two major earthquakes. Also a total of 9.1 million people were estimated to be affected by the earthquake disaster, and 3 million people have been displaced.

These earthquakes also destroyed more than 200,000 buildings, including some hospitals. Several medical professionals including physicians, nurses, technicians, secretaries, students and also volunteers worked hardly and in coordination to help injured people. In addition, several medications and emergency supplies, urgent trauma care, psychosocial assistance, infection control measures and post-trauma rehabilitation services were tried to be administered in all these cities. Therefore, this earthquake disaster forced us to publish a special issue for all health care systems to be more prepared for the possible future disasters in Turkey and other countries. Hence, we are just publishing the Cam Sakura Medical Journal Special Issue entitled as "Approach to the deadliest earthquakes: from multidisciplinary perspective."

You can read different articles about the management of injured people due to disasters in this special issue. Herein, you can read the article about the organization of healthcare systems in the disaster areas. You can also find the articles about the management of injured people in both emergency services and also orthopedics triages. In addition, you can read two articles about the management of injured cases in both pediatric and adult intensive care units. As we used extensively hyperbaric oxygen therapy in most of these patients, you can find an article about this topic. Lastly, you can read the article about prevention of infectious diseases and protection of public health just after these kind of disasters. As these disasters may occur at any time in all around the world, it is more important to take cautions and to be ready for management. We think that these articles will make us to be more prepared and be more experienced for future disasters.

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We all wish you a happy new year.

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