

Letter from the Founding Editor for Volume 6, Issue 3

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This issue of RRNMF Neuromuscular Journal is coming out immediately before the 26th Annual Neuromuscular Study Group (NMSG) Scientific Meeting to be held September 26-28 on the banks of Lake Maggiore in Stresa, Italy. It will be another exciting conference where we discuss the latest advances in the field of clinical neuromuscular disease. The meeting brings together clinical researchers, scientists, and partners from the industry. This year, we will break all previous attendance records with more than 275 participants registered. The RRNMF Neuromuscular Journal is the official journal of the NMSG. In this issue, we once again publish the scientific abstracts that will be presented at the conference along with the program agenda and other information about the NMSG.

Also in this issue, we have several very interesting articles including the first in another series of excellent pieces by Dr. Josh Freeman. In his current work, Dr. Freeman describes how the rise of the hospitalists has made medical care less personal for the patient and family. At the same time, he gives the arguments for why hospitalists have often replaced primary care physicians who now only see outpatients and discusses the reasons this has occurred.

The neuromuscular group at the University of Kansas Medical Center led by Dr. Mamatha Pasnoor presents

data on the advantage of assessing the distal to proximal epidermal nerve fiber density to more accurately diagnosis small fiber neuropathy. Patrick Reardon at the University of Melbourne Medical School proposes how neuromuscular camps can be used as sites for gathering data on a number of issues that affects patients with neuromuscular disease who attend these annual summer gatherings. Dr. Jordan and the group at the University of Florida provide a case report of a patient with late-onset Pompe disease whose diagnosis was made possible by elevated transaminases identified during routine follow up for viral gastroenteritis. Finally, Drs. Smith, Haradwala, Mehra, and Ensrud from both Barrow Neurological Institute and the University of Missouri describe an unusual case of a patient with both an immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy (IMNM) and spinocerebellar ataxia type 2.

The cover art for this issue is by Sanford Robinson Gifford. He was a prominent American landscape painter and a leading figure of the Hudson River School, a 19th-century art movement known for its romantic portrayals of the American wilderness. He was deeply influenced by his travels in Europe and the American West and developed a distinctive style characterized by luminous, atmospheric effects—a hallmark of what became known as Luminism. By the time of his death in 1880, Gifford was one of the most respected American artists of his era. This painting, “Isola Bella in Lago Maggiore,” hangs within a major memorial exhibition of Gifford’s work at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. The oil on canvas portrays sunset over the famous island just minutes from where we will meet this month in Stresa. The art is in the common domain and available for publishing without permission.