

Message from the President

The Power of Collaboration: Launching the 'Tracheostomy' Journal

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Over a decade ago, the inception of the Global Tracheostomy Collaborative (GTC) marked the beginning of a transformative journey in tracheostomy care, set against a backdrop of a world in flux. Leaders from institutions across countries and continents convened to address a growing concern that standards of tracheostomy care fell short of the ideal and much of the harm that befell patients was preventable. The international community was galvanized by data reported from the United Kingdom, United States, and Australasia, and the sense of urgency to improve tracheostomy care culminated in the creation of quality improvement collaborative that would have ripples across the globe through a combination of implementation projects, database infrastructure, patient and family engagement, and dissemination of key drivers of improved tracheostomy care. However, even as the collaborative's participants elevated standards in tracheostomy through international meetings, webinars, and publications, there was no single peer-reviewed forum that was dedicated to the science of improving tracheostomy care.

From this need, the idea for creating *Tracheostomy*, the Official Journal of the Global Tracheostomy Collaborative was born. This issue heralds a new era in our efforts to improve tracheostomy care. Since the inception of the Global Tracheostomy Collaborative, the healthcare landscape has undergone profound changes, navigating the turbulent waters of global pandemics, adapting to the evolving challenges of healthcare delivery, and embracing the unprecedented potential of artificial intelligence. At this defining moment, *Tracheostomy* is poised to assume leadership in sharing the invaluable lessons learned from experiences across the hundreds of institutions and thousands of individuals who have engaged in efforts to improve tracheostomy care. The resilience of healthcare professionals worldwide, the rapid acceleration of technological advancements, and the global community's commitment to patient care have collectively set the stage for a new era of innovation. At the frontier of this promising horizon, the Journal is committed to being a catalyst for change in enhancing tracheostomy care. It allows readers and contributors to leverage the insights and opportunities to build a future where every patient receives the highest standard of care, underscored by safety, compassion, and efficiency.

Tracheostomy is the embodiment of our collaborative spirit and dedication to advancing tracheostomy care. It serves as the premier forum for sharing scientific investigations, quality improvement projects, implementation science, comprehensive reviews, and insightful perspectives. This publication is a testament to the hard work and innovation of our editorial team and the brilliant minds who have shared their science with us. The inaugural issue of "Tracheostomy" encapsulates the global experiences in implementing the GTC key drivers at scale, featuring contributions from our diverse international community. The journal showcases best evidence, including a randomized clinical trial, profiling of a national quality improvement initiative, and revealing how cutting-edge research can advance the field for the benefit of patients and clinicians. It also acknowledges the art of caring for our patients. The issue is enriched with a personal touch—a poignant poem from my fellow Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Vinciya Pandian, that

reflects the depth of our shared commitment and passion for every human life.

Tracheostomy will also be a peer-reviewed forum for science that makes its debut at our International Tracheostomy Symposia (ITS), which have always been a cornerstone of our efforts. These meetings use a variety of formats such as scientific sessions, panels, and simulation to share impactful scientific work and foster an environment of learning and exchange. The launch of our journal is a natural extension of these gatherings, providing a platform to disseminate the valuable insights and research presented at these events. From the 7th ITS at Johns Hopkins University, which showcased a plethora of innovations and patient-centered approaches, to our ongoing webinar series that has attracted thousands of viewers, every contribution has played a part in shaping this journal. Each step forward has been made possible by our committed members, hospitals, and patients and families. Whereas the vast majority of journals in healthcare focus on a specific profession, a defining feature of *Tracheostomy* is its commitment to an interprofessional approach. The articles in the pages of this journal will incorporate insights and experiences from speech-language pathologists, respiratory care practitioners, nurses, physicians, and patients and families. As we embark on this new venture, it is crucial to acknowledge the foundation of shared learning and the continuous support of our community.

As we introduce *Tracheostomy*, I want to express my deepest gratitude to everyone who has contributed to this journal and to the broader collaborative. Together, we are changing the world through implementing the key drivers of team-based ward rounds, standardization of care protocols, interdisciplinary education and staff allocation, patient and family involvement, and use of data to drive improvement. The dedication, expertise, and innovative thinking of our members are the touchstone of *Tracheostomy*. We welcome contributions from all who are spurring innovation. Together, we are not just changing practices; we are transforming lives. I invite readers to engage with our journal, whether learning from the work of others or by contributing research, sharing your experiences, or applying the knowledge within your practice. *Tracheostomy* is a collective effort, a place where our community's voice can be heard, and a beacon for those dedicated to improving tracheostomy care around the globe.

Here's to the beginning of a new chapter in our shared journey. Please join us in helping *Tracheostomy* flourish as a source of inspiration, knowledge, and collaboration for many years to come. With warmest regards,



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