Dear Editor,

We have read with interest the article titled “Effectiveness of Combined Technique for the Correction of Prominent Ears” by Cemal Alper Kemaloğlu, Fatih Kılıç, and Fatih Doğan that was published in the September 2016 issue of our journal (Turk J Plast Surg 2016; 24: 113-7).1

In this study, which was jointly conducted by the faculty of the medical schools of two state universities and accepted to be published in the “Original Article” section of our journal, the authors seem to have refrained from commenting on scientific content. However, the way the terms Mustardé and Furnas sutures are used in the article was found noteworthy. It was deemed that it would have been more appropriate and respectful of the authors to use a definition like “the suture described in Mustardé and Furnas type otoplasty techniques” rather than a usage that can be adopted as part of the daily language among colleagues; thus, this letter is being written to remind our young colleagues about some relevant issues.

It is known that our association has adopted and accepted the principle of citing publications by the Turkish plastic surgeons on topics related to new fields. The article in question is observed to include limited citations in this respect.2,3 I would like to congratulate the contributors.

Prof. Dr. Tord Skoog (1915–1977) may be relatively less known due to his untimely death; however, he is a prominent name in plastic surgery, and his techniques, all original in almost every aspect, are provided in detail in his book.4 One of these techniques is regarding the reconstruction of prominent ears. The significance of his technique lies in the importance he gives to the perichondrium. The author came to be known in Turkey through the efforts of Prof. Dr. Erdem Yormuk, and the first medical dissertation on this topic, Perikondrioplas-ti ile otoplasti [Otoplasty using perichondrioplasty] was written by Dr. Lütfü Baş and was later published.5

After understanding the important role played by perichondrium in neochondrogenesis for the reconstruction of prominent ears, other scientific studies, including dissertations, focusing on the perichondrium were conducted in our country.6,7 The dissertation received the first prize in the Best of Turkey Awards and was later presented outside of Turkey at the Best of Europe session.7 The techniques developed as a result of the studies conducted on the perichondrium were presented at national and international congresses; experiences presented at national congresses were further presented as part of the curricula in some universities and also published in reputable national and international journals.6,9 Kemaloğlu et al.1 mention of subperichondrial dissection was found positive and valuable in terms of the importance they gave to the subject.

Today, almost any information can be easily accessed on the internet. Besides welcoming the practice of preferably including the studies conducted by Turkish authors in newer studies, we believe that this practice will facilitate the exchange of information related to scientific studies performed in our country. I would like to hereby wish success to all members of our community, especially our young colleagues, with respect to their research.

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REFERENCES


