

Two of a Kind: Multiple Discovery AKA Simultaneous Invention is the Rule



Abstract: Multiple discovery also known as simultaneous invention is the hypothesis that most scientific discoveries and inventions are made independently and more or less simultaneously by multiple scientists and inventors. Great minds think alike.

In contrast to the “heroic theory” of invention and discovery, “(t)he concept of multiple discovery (also known as simultaneous invention) is the hypothesis that most scientific discoveries and inventions are made independently and more or less simultaneously by multiple scientists and inventors.¹

In support of this hypothesis is the fact that at *Arthroscopy*, we frequently receive unexpected and innovative submissions in pairs. At times, with a combination of luck and some planning, we are able to couple such submissions and publish “two of a kind,” which refers to publication of two (and sometimes more) articles that are topically related in the same issue of the journal. We were most pleased to do so this May, when we published “Injections for Knee Osteoarthritis: Corticosteroids, Viscosupplementation, Platelet-Rich Plasma, and Autologous Stem Cells” by Levy, Petersen, Vaught, Christian, and Cole,² concomitant with “Biological Treatment for Osteoarthritis of the Knee: Moving from Bench to Bedside—Current Practical Concepts” by Chahla and Mandelbaum.³ Notably, both of these articles summarizing the very latest information on injection therapy for knee osteoarthritis (including authors preferred techniques) are among the 5 “Most Read” articles cited on the journal web site at the time of this writing.⁴

Turning our focus to the current issue, as a sommelier proudly pairs quality wines to match flavorsome culinary courses,⁵ we are pleased to present a fine pair of articles as well a couple of heated letters.

In this issue, readers will note 2 Level V expert opinion articles, “The Role of Blood Flow Restriction

Therapy Following Knee Surgery: Expert Opinion” by DePhillipo, Kennedy, Aman, Bernhardson, O’Brien, and LaPrade,⁶ and “Personalized Blood Flow Restriction Therapy: How, When and Where Can it Accelerate Rehabilitation After Surgery?” by Day.⁷ We editors, not being overly familiar with blood flow restriction, found the articles to be complementary and informative, and we imagine that readers will find the opinion of our experts to be most edifying.

Of note, senior author Robert LaPrade is an exceptionally productive contributing author to our journal, having published 37 articles in *Arthroscopy* since 2016. Brian Day, a Past President of AANA and an *Arthroscopy* Associate Editor Emeritus, has been making an enormous impact on health care access and delivery,^{8,9} and was actually making an appearance before the Supreme Court of Canada at the time he was drafting his article (Brian Day, personal communication, April 2018).

Among the surfeit of Letters to the Editor (which we love), readers will find a heated pair of responses to Andy Williams’ profound Editorial Commentary “The Anterolateral Ligament: The Emperor’s New Clothes?”¹⁰ On reading the letters “Anterolateral Ligament: Let’s Stick to the Facts!” by Sonnery-Cottet et al.¹¹ and “Response to ‘Editorial Commentary: The Anterolateral Ligament: The Emperor’s New Clothes?’” by Ferretti and Monaco,¹² one might think Williams was more profane than profound! In our opinion, this was not the case. Taken in sum, the two letters and the well-considered response by Williams¹³ make for most educational reading. The passionate presentation of contrary viewpoints, all eloquent and supported by data and experience, provides depth and perspective as we pursue scientific truth.

Often, weighty scientific thoughts occur simultaneously. Great minds think alike!

James H. Lubowitz, M.D.
Editor-in-Chief
 Jefferson C. Brand, M.D.
Assistant Editor-in-Chief
 Michael J. Rossi, M.D., M.S.
Assistant Editor-in-Chief

References

1. Multiple discovery. Wikipedia. Available at, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multiplediscovery>. Accessed June 19, 2018.
2. Levy DM, Petersen KA, Vaught MS, Christian DR, Cole BJ. Injections for knee osteoarthritis: Corticosteroids, viscosupplementation, platelet-rich plasma, and autologous stem cells. *Arthroscopy* 2018;34:1730-1743.
3. Chahla J, Mandelbaum BR. Biological treatment for osteoarthritis of the knee: Moving from bench to bedside—Current practical concepts. *Arthroscopy* 2018;34:1719-1729.
4. Arthroscopy journal homepage: Most read tab. Available at, <https://www.arthroscopyjournal.org>. Accessed June 19, 2018.
5. Hunt TJ, Brand JC, Provencher MT, Rossi MJ, Lubowitz JH. Sommelier suggestions: The Arthroscopy Association of North America annual meeting inspires a content collection worth tasting. *Arthroscopy* 2017;33:885-887.
6. DePhillipo NN, Kennedy MI, Aman Z, Bernhardson A, O'Brien L, LaPrade RF. The role of blood flow restriction therapy following knee surgery: Expert opinion. *Arthroscopy* 2018;34:2511-2516.
7. Day B. Personalized blood flow restriction therapy: How, when and where can it accelerate rehabilitation after surgery?" by Brian Day. *Arthroscopy* 2018;34:2517-2519.
8. Brian Day Wikipedia entry. Available at, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brian_Day. Accessed June 19, 2018.
9. Brian Day web site. Available at, <http://www.brianday.ca>. Accessed June 19, 2018.
10. Williams A. Editorial commentary: The anterolateral ligament: The emperor's new clothes? *Arthroscopy* 2018;34:1015-1021.
11. Sonnery-Cottet B, Claes S, Blakeney WG, et al. Anterolateral ligament: Let's stick to the facts!". *Arthroscopy* 2018;34:2259-2262.
12. Ferretti A. Response to "Editorial commentary: The anterolateral ligament: The emperor's new clothes?". *Arthroscopy* 2018;34:2262-2266.
13. Williams A. Author reply to letters to the editor From Sonnery-Cottet et al. and Ferretti. *Arthroscopy* 2018;34:2267-2269.