

## Foreword

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Contemporary orthopedic literature is inundated with articles summarizing where we stand today in the management of articular cartilage disease. Even Hippocrates would have difficulty anticipating the scope and impact of articular cartilage disease on society. Because the knowledge base and decision-making principles are evolving so rapidly for this topic, the following update on articular cartilage should prove timely for this audience.

In the article by Farr et al, a thorough overview and treatment algorithm used to treat patients with articular cartilage disease of the knee is provided. Careful attention to the relevant comorbidities and specific principles used to appropriately match the surgical procedure to the patient- and defect-specific factors is the underlying theme of this article.

Scopp and Mandelbaum enhance the overview of

treatment options provided in the first article by providing specific case examples that most of us will see from time-to-time, which at first glance, appear to be relatively straight forward. However, the nuances of these clinical vignettes should not be overlooked as we learn more about how our outcomes may depend on carefully deciding on the most predictable treatment option.

Sgaglione provides the third article in this section that encompasses an overview of where we stand today and where we are heading in the near future. This provocative article summarizes what we are likely to see in the future in terms of the solutions that will be available to our patients who will hopefully benefit from improvements in existing technology and through the emergence of novel treatment options.