

Letter to Editor

“The Vibrating Echo” to “Jacques Magnan Appeal of Ignorance”

Salah Mansour

Department of Otolaryngology, Lebanese University School of Medicine, Beirut, Lebanon

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Dr. Magnan Letter, published in the latest issue of JIAO, is a provocative message, albeit an appropriate one^[1]. For some years now, I have observed that the field of vestibulology seems to suffer from a dizzying confusion and numerous know-it-all altitudes among specialty reporters.

In the current communications and publications, the diagnosis are confusing, etiologies are primarily presumptive and unconvincing; the clinical pictures are not studied sharp enough to facilitate proper distinctions.

Patients are made into a hodgepodge, from which sample vertigo cases are collected without clear labels and treatment is applied with a reported success rate in excess of 95%?!

Regarding Meniere’s disease, the recent literature seldom makes a clear distinction between hydrops, established Meniere’s disease, and autoimmune diseases. The diagnosis of vestibular migraine is often given to patients with negative results for further investigation, while they have never suffered from episodes of typical or atypical migraines; Vestibular migraine is even reported to be a premature Meniere... In fact, much is made to fit into the diagnosis!

I admit that vestibular pathologies are complex and potentially unclear. Their symptoms are often poorly presented by patients and more often poorly objectified by physicians, from the perspective of semiology, compared with auditory pathologies. If substantial advances have been made in the pathology of otoconia (VBPP and canal vestibulopathies); however, when reading or listening to speakers nowadays, I am struck by the lack of intellectual honesty in their communications. It appears as if a novel form of “sectarian language” is developing.

If the advances in modern otology are the fruit of the progress in physics (i.e., Audiology and imaging evaluation and therapies) we, clinicians facing vertigo cases, will have to work with increased seriousness in the fields of clinical and applied research to better understand the vestibular pathology-related realities, ailments, and their management.

I agree with Jacques appeal: *There is no point in using confusion to define knowledge.*

Finally, I hope that Dr. Magnan Letter will constructively resonate among the concerned caretakers and that his words will, at the very least, be properly understood.

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REFERENCES

1. Magnan J. Appeal to Ignorance. J Int Adv Otol 2018; 14: 504-5. [\[CrossRef\]](#)