FROM THE EDITOR

With this issue, we are in the middle of our second year of publication. This has been quite a learning experience for our staff! The support and hard work of our issue editors, support staff, and publisher has been tremendous. It is difficult to imagine the number of people it takes to produce a journal from inception to print. My hope is that our readers are finding the material stimulating.

With that in mind, I would like to solicit your comments, suggestions, and concerns regarding topics for discussion and problems you face in your practice. If we receive a good response, we will start a "Letters to the Editor" section in our journal. This should provide a forum for dialogue within the rehabilitation community of physicians, therapists, chiropractors, case managers, etc.

This issue's guest editor is Dr. Michael M. Weinik of Temple University. He has secured excellent writers for this issue, which is entitled, "The Ankle." Dr. Weinik, in conjunction with Dr. Frank Falco, has also contributed a manuscript on acute and chronic compartment syndrome of the lower extremity. It demonstrates a thorough literature review in addition to practical applications for treatment.

Dr. Carson Schneck leads off this issue with an authoritative and meticulously detailed presentation of the anatomy and kinesiology of the ankle and foot.

Next, Dr. Phillip Bryant demonstrates his areas of expertise in a very complete review of entrapment neuropathies of the foot and ankle, with a focus on sports injuries. Electrodiagnosis offers a definite adjunct to objective physical findings.

Dr. John Kelly, an orthopedic surgeon at Temple University, discusses persistent ankle pain after sprain, giving indications for referral for arthroscopy as well as developing a practical algorithm for diagnosing and treating chronic ankle pain.

Dan Bradley, PT, CSCS, and Pat Croce, PT, ATC, describe a typical rehabilitation program following ankle injury. It is very descriptive as the patient is progressed from Phase I to Phase IV. The figures highlight specific exercises and progression.

A review of ankle taping and orthoses is presented by Jeff Ryan, the Director of Rehabilitation at Temple University Center for Sports Medicine and Science, and Paul Krajewski, the Associate Director there. It discusses the pros and cons, expense, and effectiveness of orthoses and taping.

Our feature writer, Dr. John Kregel, of the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center in Supported Employment, Virginia Commonwealth University, concludes his discussion devoted to the National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research.

Complimentary to this issue will be an upcoming issue on the lower extremities with a focus on biomechanics and the lower kinetic chain. We are fortunate to have as guest editor of this upcoming issue Robert Donatelli, MA, PT, OCS, who is well known for his publications and clinical expertise in this area.

I appreciate Dr. Weinik's work in putting together a solid, useful issue.

Karen S. Rucker, MD