

EDITORIAL

Sexual medicine & sexology for sexual dysfunction

It gives me great pleasure to be editing this journal as we reach Volume 20. Our scope and coverage expands in ever diversifying ways, with our editors keeping in mind that our core readership are clinicians who are primarily interested in sexual and relationship therapies but for whom there is an increasing need to have access to important and new information as more and more is learnt about this vast clinical field.

In 1999 the First International Consultation on Erectile Dysfunction was held in Paris with the Proceedings becoming the most quoted reference on men's sexual dysfunction in the world. In just 4 years the second International Consultation took place in Paris in July 2003. More than 200 members of 19 committees all internationally known scholars and experts from the five continents of the globe met together to prepare what must surely be the most authoritative work currently available to clinicians. Several of our editors and contributors to the Journal had input to committee number 2 which looked at the psychological and interpersonal dimension of sexual functions and dysfunction's under the chair of Stanley Althof and our North American Editor – Sandra Leiblum. The Second International Consultation on Sexual Dysfunctions reached press in September 2004 (Lue et al). 2004 also saw the first inaugural issue of the *Journal of Sexual Medicine*, which highlighted some of this International Consultation (Lue T F & Khoury S 2004). This consensus group is to be congratulated in embracing the importance of psychosexual and couple matters into the various sexual dysfunctions and will surely be an important catalyst in ensuring greater and wider multidisciplinary input into both the assessment and management of patients with sexual problems.

Time has moved on and opinions have become more guided and informed. A Journal such as *Sexual and Relationship Therapy* must aim to provide its readership with the most authoritative original research papers that are relevant to the practising clinician as well as expertly written clinical reviews and updates. Whilst many of these reviews are commissioned, we continue to invite specialist reviews to be submitted by authors with expertise across the whole spectrum of conditions, which may commonly or rarely present to clinicians working in this field. As our education and awareness consolidates and has a greater evidence base we can hope that our aspirations for properly commissioned and cross-discipline teams to provide the health care will become more the norm than is currently the case.

KEVAN R. WYLIE
Editor in Chief

References

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- LUE, T.F. & KHOURY, S. (2004) Comment on the Second International Consultation on Erectile and Sexual Dysfunctions. *Journal of Sexual Medicine*, 1, 4-5.