Editor in Chief’s message

GILBERT E. D’ALONZO, Jr, DO

It gives me great pleasure to introduce this JAOA Supplement on Pain Management. I laud and congratulate its editor, Frederick J. Goldstein, PhD, FCP, for directing and overseeing this project.

As the tagline on the cover proclaims, pain management is the “new treatment imperative.” In his “Editor’s message,” Dr. Goldstein outlines the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) requirement to ensure that patients will receive appropriate pain management. As osteopathic physicians, we need also to be aware that the American Osteopathic Association’s Division of Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program (HFAP) May 2000 revised Accreditation Requirements for Healthcare Facilities 2000–2001 includes the addition of pain management standards to eight chapters, assuring a multidisciplinary approach. The HFAP and JCAHO standards appear in tabular format in the first article.

Regrettably, space limitations necessitated moving two important articles intended for this supplement—one by Thomas A. Cavalieri, DO, and the other by Richard A. Pascucci, DO—into the accompanying regular issue of JAOA.

Christine A. Bruce, MA, MDiv, LMFT, nicely concludes this supplement, noting the strong connection between spirituality and well-being. Adhering to our osteopathic philosophy, we treat the whole patient best when our approach is multidisciplinary and encompasses the patient’s physical, psychological, and spiritual needs. The contents of this supplement plus the two articles in this month’s issue of JAOA exemplify that approach.