scriptions of the roles of various health disciplines and rehabilitation techniques used with rheumatic diseases in general and specifically with common conditions such as osteoarthritis and regional problems such as shoulder pain.

Because there is no introduction to this text, the target audience to whom this book is addressed is not readily identified. The book seems to be addressing physicians and other health professionals who may lack understanding of the roles and functions of the health disciplines with specialized skills for providing care to people with rheumatic diseases.

The first section, "The Interdisciplinary Team Approach," describes the roles, education backgrounds, and/or general concerns of 12 health disciplines. The second section, "Techniques in the Care of Patients with Rheumatic Disease," provides particularly useful summaries of the common rehabilitation techniques used by occupational and physical therapists along with the techniques of social workers and other behavioral disciplines. The last section, "Techniques for Regional Disorders and Specific Diseases," addresses a potpourri of common problems, such as hand dysfunction, knee pain and quadriceps atrophy, and spondyloarthropathies. This section also provides useful brief summaries of rehabilitation problems and solutions for the regional disorders and specific diseases discussed.

The reference lists at the end of each chapter throughout the text are selectively chosen to allow the reader to obtain information of greater depth on the topics discussed.

I recommend this text for those who are not knowledgeable about the rehabilitation services that can be provided for rheumatic diseases by health disciplines and for those who would like to have a synthesis of predominant thoughts regarding rheumatological rehabilitation in one text.

Yuriko Lynn Yasuda, MSED, OTR


The charter issue of Occupational Therapy in Health Care is thematic, as early issues will be, and is devoted to "the changing roles of occupational therapists in the 1980's." It contained some refreshing and exciting professional articles. There is a balance of theoretical perspectives, presentations of new models of practice and education, descriptions of innovative uses of activity by occupational therapists, and information about the effects that external forces may have upon our profession. Each article is written by a different author. The articles were well-written, clear, and interesting, and they contain enough specificity for the reader to explore and experiment with new therapeutic modalities or new ideas and approaches. The references at the end of chapters provide and up-to-date and readily available resource if one wants more information about a given topic.

The index for the book provides a clear guideline for the contents, and the abstracts at the beginning of each article enable one to decide quickly which articles to read first. Interestingly, this issue contains details about the next issue and themes for later issues.

There is both breadth and depth in this issue, exposure to new perspectives, challenge to some of our common assumptions, and articles that have appeal for occupational therapists in any area of practice.

I recommend that future issues address private practice along with more traditional practice areas and include some information about the steps and resources needed to establish and maintain new practice models.

The editor has selected a solid peer review board. While the standards for publication are high, considerable effort has been expended in seeking and supporting authors who are involved in examining and developing new models of practice or other relevant endeavors to write about their areas of practice.

Occupational Therapy in Health Care has the potential to cover ideas and models of practice that are at the cutting edge of the future and to disseminate such information fairly quickly.

Occupational Therapy in Health Care will significantly complement both The American Journal of Occupational Therapy, Occupational Therapy Journal of Research, and the special interest section newsletters, and will provide valuable resources for students, educators, and clinicians. I look forward to reading upcoming issues of OTHC—and recommend it to others.

Jerry A. Johnson, MBA, EdD, OTR

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