

## Editor's Message: The JGPT is Evolving...

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This first edition of 2009 includes significant changes for the *Journal of Geriatric Physical Therapy (JGPT)*. We are moving to a quarterly publication schedule and increasing to 48 pages per issue. In addition to reducing "wait time" between acceptance and publication for authors, information about developments in geriatric rehabilitation will be more quickly available for clinicians and students who use the *JGPT* as a source of evidence to guide practice. We are grateful to the Section on Geriatrics' Board of Directors for the investment they are making in the *JGPT* by approving this change.

To improve the rigor, quality, and responsiveness of the review process, we welcome Dale Avers, PT, DPT, PhD; Marybeth Brown, PT, PhD, FAPTA; and Rita Wong, PT, EdD to the role of Associate Editor. Dr. Avers will be lead editor for case reports and qualitative research reports, and Drs. Brown and Wong will work with me on the reviews of quantitative research reports and systematic reviews. The submission rate (and the quality of manuscripts) increased by nearly 50% in 2007 and again in 2008. The addition of Associate Editors insures our ability to provide constructive criticism to authors in a timely fashion. We are likely to be issuing a call for manuscript reviewers by mid-year as well. Consider joining the review team!

We would request that authors limit word count to 5,500 words (excluding abstract and references) and the length of their manuscripts to 24 pages maximum (figures, tables, and references included). We refer potential authors to the resources and guidelines on preparation of research reports, systematic reviews, and case reports developed by *Physical Therapy*, available at their website [www.ptjournal.org](http://www.ptjournal.org), by clicking on the information for authors tab.

Finally, we are in the process of redesigning our website to enhance accessibility and search capacity. Watch for changes in the months ahead!

*Michelle M. Zussardi*