

## Editorial

Welcome to *International Psychogeriatrics*. It is with pride, excitement, and a sense of challenge that we launch this first issue of our new journal. Why this new journal? The impetus and the credit go to the field—specifically to the growing community of researchers, teachers, and clinicians around the globe who are interested in and contribute to psychogeriatric knowledge. This truly is the historic moment in the fields of gerontology and geriatrics, a period marked by the coming together of societal concern and scientific curiosity about issues of aging and the problems of the elderly. It is a moment not confined to any one nation, nor to any one continent; that is what makes it all the more important and exciting. It is in this context that this new journal, international in scope, is being launched.

Both words in the journal's title are significant. The *international* emphasis responds to the growing worldwide need for knowledge. Our goal is to provide information from an international range of scientists and clinicians on relevant scientific, academic, and health service developments within their respective countries. The term *psychogeriatrics* emphasizes the journal's broad interest in *multidisciplinary* aspects of knowledge on health and behavior in aging. The desired authors and intended audiences are mental health professionals and health professionals interested in behavioral, psychosocial, and psychobiological phenomena within geriatrics and gerontology.

The rapidly and dynamically growing International Psychogeriatric Association (IPA) is one of the strongest indicators of this quest for knowledge in aging and of the collaborative opportunities in psychogeriatrics internationally. As the official journal of the International Psychogeriatric Association, *International Psychogeriatrics* embodies the multidisciplinary, multinational thrust of the IPA.

*International Psychogeriatrics* contains peer-reviewed reports on scientific, academic, and practice developments. It features three major sections: (1) Research and Reviews; (2) Clinical Practice and Service Development; and (3) International Psychogeriatric Developments. The section on Research and Reviews contains: (a) *original research articles* focused on clinical findings, applied research, or basic research, and (b) *reviews* covering established developments in clinical, applied, or basic research. The section on Clinical Practice and Service Development contains: (a) case reports, brief descriptions of new treatment techniques or established interventions used in new ways, and brief descriptions of new equipment or innovations in the use of available technology, and (b) descriptions of innovative development or delivery of services. The section on International Psychogeriatric Developments contains descriptions and discussions of developments that tend to more country-specific or that are influenced by the particular

practice, policy, and socioeconomic conditions of a given nation. Descriptions include those of educational as well as service programs. In addition to these three major sections, there will be editorials, commentaries, letters to the editor, book and educational material reviews, meeting announcements, announcements of the International Psychogeriatric Association, and related special features.

We are especially pleased to be working in this effort with such a talented and dedicated multidisciplinary editorial board from around the world, who will be carrying out the peer review of submissions. And all of us are most fortunate to be assisted by the publisher, Dr. Ursula Springer, who brings vital energy, commitment, and inspiration to this endeavor and to the field of aging. Together, we look forward to your submitted articles, comments, and recommendations—and to an exciting relationship with you!

**Gene D. Cohen, M.D., Ph.D., Editor-in-Chief**  
**Manfred Bergener, M.D., Associate Editor**  
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