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## Editorial – February 2016

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The preliminary volume of IJOT in 2016 opens with a **position paper on Occupational Therapy for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) along the Life Cycle**. It was written by a collaborative team of occupational therapists from academia, organizations and clinics specializing in this population. The position paper focuses on the unique role of occupational therapy in treating people with ASD and provides an overview of the evaluation and intervention processes recommended for use in this population. The position paper was approved by the Higher Professional Committee of Occupational Therapy in Israel.

The second article entitled, **Treatment of Sensory Difficulties among Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders through Sensory Integration Approaches and Sensory-Based Intervention and their Impact on Function - A Current Review**, also relates to the ASD population. It provides the readers with a literature review concerning the area of sensory functions in these children, detailing the evidence-based research on the application of sensory integration or sensory based treatment approaches for this population.

The third article, **The Interplay between Coordinated Motor-Vocal Imitation and Development in Toddlers**, describes a study designed to investigate toddlers' imitation of



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the motor and/or vocal parameters of demonstrated behaviors. The research compared typically developed toddlers with those at risk for ASD. This study's findings have implications for our understanding of the mechanisms underlying imitation and for designing developmentally appropriate imitation tasks.

The fourth article, **Video-games for Treating the Weaker Upper Extremity of Individuals with Sub-Acute Stroke: A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial** describes a study performed with adults post-CVA. This well controlled study examined the feasibility and effectiveness of employing video-games to treat weak upper extremities.

Finally, this issue includes an index listing the articles and authors who contributed to IJOT from 2013-2015. It is provided to help readers locate articles and columns published in recent years and is presented every few years. During the process of preparing the index, we

were impressed and amazed by the quantity and high quality of articles and columns published in our journal. We wish to thank all our contributors for their efforts and patience and look forward with anticipation to receive new materials for our future issues. All submissions can be sent to IJOT at the address listed below.

Pleasant reading,

**Asnat Bar-Haim Erez, OT, PhD**

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