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## Editorial – March 2017

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### Departing from my role as editor-in-chief of the journal

I had the great honor of being the chief editor of the journal of the Israeli Association of Occupational Therapy over the past four years. My role exposed me to the variety of clinical work and to the extensive, innovative and interesting occupational therapy research carried out in Israel. I also realized how difficult it is for clinicians to write and submit professional journal articles and I am very grateful to those among you who met this challenge despite the difficulty. However, given that most of the content of the IJOT is in Hebrew, it is not easy to recruit articles. It also makes it especially hard for our journal to achieve a status of prestige and recognition. Thus, we are committed to maintaining a high professional standard of quality for the occupational therapy articles we publish. This is the reason why some of our contributors may have received repeated requests for article revisions, and experienced discouragement along the way. We hope that we have been able to help you during the submission process and that your final product provided you with a measure of personal and professional pride.

The practice of occupational therapy in Israel is markedly progressing and it is important to remember that this



**Asnat Bar-Haim Erez**

journal represents a central ‘showcase’ for disseminating information regarding the clinical projects, research, opinions, assessment tools, and innovative means of intervention performed in our small country. Furthermore, our journal also serves as a mode of communication, mutual enrichment, and a means of promoting ourselves as a profession that is constantly evolving, both scientifically and clinically.

It should be noted that following the publications of the impressive and professional journal articles, the Israeli National Library has chosen to include the IJOT within the digital library - JSTOR; which encompasses Israeli professional journals. This has provided our journal with greater exposure, resulting in requests for articles and collaborations from professionals in Israel and abroad. In addition, it has spurred a welcome trend of requests to submit articles from professionals from external disciplines.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the editorial and production team of the IJOT who have worked conscientiously, with care and precision, to enhance the quality of our articles and create a highly respectable final product. This team supports the chief editor to maintain the consistent quality and professionalism of our journal. **Meital, Varda and Sarina**, thanks for the professionalism, support, attention to detail and pleasantness with which you conducted yourselves.

Finally, I would like to applaud **Dr. Batia Marom** for taking it upon herself to continue the mission of promoting and preserving our journal. I call upon all of our reader to contribute to the journal, whether submitting articles or column pieces.

Sincerely,  
**Asnat**

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