EDITORIAL
Eva Bower – APCP Editor

Welcome to this the first of the 2011 issues of the APCP Journal. APCP has formed a new editorial board to produce your journal in which each board member has a designated an area of responsibility with certain tasks to perform.

Services for children with disabilities have come a long way since the days of Tiny Tim whose problems were compounded by poverty and lack of a diagnosis. It has been suggested that his disability was caused either by renal tubular acidosis, or by rickets due to a lack of Vitamin D (Lewis, 1992). Let us hope that services in the UK will not regress too much in the coming years. Paediatric physiotherapy also needs to progress towards producing a scientifically based journal included in a health database.

The three clinical articles published in this issue illustrate three aspects which should be addressed by therapists:
1) firstly, the need to try to help researchers by engaging with them and by informing families of the possibilities of participating in various trials - recruitment to trials is still a problem;
2) secondly, the need to formally assess, using validated measures if available, and to document such assessments of all children referred;
3) thirdly, the need to ensure that all treatments are based on scientifically gathered evidence and not on opinion, however well publicised.

Readers interested in our rare diseases section may also be interested the article by McCarthy et al (2011) on Lesch-Nyham disease in the UK, and the commentary ‘Needles in haystacks: the challenges of rare diseases’ Jinnah (2011).

Users of Botulinum toxin injections in their clinical practice may, in addition to our Cochrane review summary, like to read O’Flaherty et al (2011) on the ‘Adverse events and health status following Botulinum toxin type A infections in children with C.P.’ and the commentary by Narayanan (2011).

The journal will appear twice a year in April/May and in November/December for the present time. It will stand or fall by the number and quality of papers you, the readers, send us. At the back of this issue you will find information to assist you with preparing your work for submission. All submissions will be peer-reviewed.

Submissions should be emailed to the APCP Administrator at va@apcp.org.uk. Submissions for the next issue should be received by July 1st 2011.

We hope you enjoy this issue and the Editorial Board would value any feedback from members.

References


Lewis SD What was wrong with Tiny Tim? American Journal Disabled Child 1992. 146. 12. 1403-7

