

The COFFITO/BJPT partnership

A parceria COFFITO e RBF

Respected colleague,

In the world or in the era of knowledge, we will only expand our being as we expand our knowledge. Scientific knowledge is infinite and it has no boundaries because, anywhere in the planet, we are constantly questioning, revisiting, and reassessing our truths, our learning, and our clinical practice in search of what is best for people's lives.

Therefore, the signing of the cooperation agreement between the Federal Council of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy (Conselho Federal de Fisioterapia e Terapia Ocupacional - COFFITO) and the Brazilian Journal of Physical Therapy (BJPT) brought us much pleasure and honor, as well as many emotions, including:

The feeling of gratitude and respect for the first editors of the BJPT – Profs. Carlos Eduardo dos Santos, Dirceu Costa, Eloísa Tudella, José Rubens Rebellato, Nivaldo A. Parizotto, Rosana Mattioli, Vanessa M. Pedro – and for the people who continued with the project and devoted themselves to this scientific journal – Prof. Helenice Jane Cote Gil Coury, Prof. Gil Lúcio Almeida, Prof. Tania de Fátima Salvini, Prof. Sérgio T. Fonseca, and currently, Professors Aparecida Maria Catai, Débora Bevilacqua Grossi, and Marisa Cotta Mancini.

The feeling of commitment and responsibility, given that COFFITO is a self-managed federal entity that must have a zeal for ethics. According to Rubem Alves¹, in his extended concept, ethics means compassion – a desire to take care of and to love all living beings and everything around you. Thus, to make scientific knowledge available for the care of life is undoubtedly the most relevant ethical justification for this project.

The feeling of solidarity for being able to extend top scientific knowledge to the 140,000 physical therapy and occupational therapy professionals in this country with the intention of benefitting approximately 190 million Brazilians with quality care based increasingly on scientific research.

The feeling of hope that, drawing on this and other examples, the government will give more careful thought to the importance of research in the field of health. Research is not conducted merely on the basis of the teacher's title or legal requirements. Our researchers need basic standards of infrastructure and adequate funding to develop and share their scientific knowledge, which will allow more people on the planet to live longer and better.

If health is a right of all Brazilians, I believe that the true value of scientific research is in its capacity to transform society's present situation in the quest for human dignity and social justice.

Finally, the signing of this cooperation agreement also represents the COFFITO-CREFITO System's recognition of the services of physical therapists and occupational therapists on the upcoming day of our professions, October

¹ Alves R. Meu coração fica junto ao coração dela... Sabor do saber. Folha de São Paulo (Sinapse), 09/27/2005

13th, and, consequently, the fulfillment of our duty to the Brazilian population that, starting from today, as already mentioned, will also directly benefit from this initiative.

Roberto Mattar Cepeda

President of COFFITO