

## EDITORIAL

*Profa. Dra. Fernanda Dreux M. Fernandes*

The third 2011 issue of the Revista da Sociedade Brasileira de Fonoaudiologia presents one more important overview about the knowledge produced by Brazilian Speech and Language Pathology and Audiology. The papers presented report research and studies conducted with methodological care and that were generously reviewed by peers that invariably provided suggestions that contributed to improve the quality of the manuscripts and therefore of the Revista.

Studies about our reality with persons that speak Portuguese and use the national health and educational systems represent as essential contribution to improve the scientifically supported professional activity.

Editors, reviewers, authors and technical personnel are deeply involved with perfecting the Revista and including it in selective databases. This is constant team-work. But the impact of the Revista to the Brazilian Speech and Language Pathology and Audiology is indisputable.

One proof that this team-work is in constant evolution is the number of papers that are being published in English, as well as in Portuguese. In the first numbers of 2011, when we started to optionally publish this version we had six papers published in both languages in each issue. In this third issue we have ten papers that may be read by a larger group of professionals and researchers.

Below is a list of what can be found:

Santos & Lemos wrote the paper *Construction of the health promotion concept: comparative study between freshmen and senior Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology students* that reported that most of the subjects participated in courses and activities involving health promotion. They concluded that data confirm the importance to discuss health promotion issues during the educational process of speech-language pathologists and audiologists.

**Bevilacqua, Morettin, Melo, Amantini & Martinez** present the paper *Contributions for the Brazilian hearing health policy assessment* that quantified the procedures related to hearing aid fitting between 2004 and 2010. The authors conclude that despite the great progress in the hearing impaired attention policy, it is still necessary to improve the audiological follow-up to hearing aid users, and to review specific procedures.

*Significant auditory threshold shift among workers exposed to different noise levels* is the title of the original paper by **Oliva, Morata, Lacerda, Steinmetz, Bramatti, Vivan, Gonçalves & Marques** that assessed hearing threshold and its shifts in workers exposed to different noise levels. According to the authors the findings suggest that there is association between auditory threshold shifts and the exposure to low risk noise levels.

The study *Vocal symptoms and laryngeal sensations in workers of an ethanol and sugar mill exposed to occupational risks* was performed by **Coutinho, Fiorini, Oliveira, Latorre & Ferreira** that concluded that vocal symptoms and laryngeal sensations may be related to professional activities where there is exposure to physical and/or chemical risks.

**Tutya, Zambon, Oliveira & Behlau** report the research *Comparison of V-RQOL, VHI and VAPP scores in teachers* that assessed how the impact of dysphonia in teachers is characterized by the protocols V-RQOL (Voice-Related Quality of Life), VHI (Voice Handicap Index) and VAPP (Voice Activity and Participation Profile). According to the authors the protocols do not show the same information for dysphonic teachers.

**Patatas, Gonçalves, Chiari & Gielow** studied the *Duration parameters of swallowing acoustic signals in subjects without complaints* in 88 women and 76 men between 6 and 85 years and concluded that the swallowing sounds produced in the cervical region may be used as dysphagia evaluation methods.

*Swallowing with and without verbal commands: videofluoroscopy findings* is the title of the original paper presented by **Almeida, Haguette & Andrade**. The purpose was to characterize the swallowing process of different food consistencies and quantities, with and without verbal commands, through videofluoroscopy in 40 health individuals. The authors concluded that the verbal commands influenced the dynamics of swallowing.

The research *Characteristics of non-nutritive sucking in full-term and late preterm infants* is reported by **Kao, Guedes & Santos**. The authors concluded that parameters as readiness for feeding, behavioral state, axial tonus, sucking pattern and strength, and tongue movements were less frequent in preterm infants.

**Di Ninno, Gonçalves, Braga & Miranda** assessed the *Prevalence of submucous cleft palate associated with cleft lip* in 132 patients and concluded that 11% of them presented signs of submucous cleft palate, with higher prevalence in males and in left-sided cleft lip.

The *School performance of students with cleft lip and palate in their teachers' point of view* was assessed by **Domingues, Picolini, Lauris & Maximino** on a retrospective analysis of 61 records. The authors concluded that the school performance of most students with cleft lip and palate without associated anomalies was considered satisfactory by their teachers.

**Ferreira, Relvas, Ramalho, Ronchi, Perillo & Rodrigues** studied the *Speech-language pathology manifestations reported by parents of children with congenital hypothyroidism* in 15 children between 2 and 7 years of age. They verified that there was association between complaints and speech disorders with the time of diagnosis and beginning of treatment.

**Defense & Fernandes** report the research *Social-communicative adaptation and Autism Behavior Checklist: associations in the evolution of institutionalized adolescents with autism* where eight autistic adolescents were followed-up during a six-month period on a specialized institution and assessed with the Autism Behavior Checklist, the Functional Communicative Profile and the Social-Cognitive Performance.

The *Prevalence of phonological disorders in first grade students of elementary school* was studied by **Rossi-Barbosa, Caldeira, Honorato-Marques & Silva** in 587 children from 56 public schools in Minas Gerais. The authors report a high prevalence of phonological disorders and suggest the test should be further reviewed, considering socio-cultural issues.

*Manifestations of apraxia of speech in Alzheimer's disease* is the title of the original paper presented by **Cera, Ortiz, Bertolucci & Minett**. They assessed 90 patients at the different stages of the disease with mean age of 80.2 years and concluded that the patterns of verbal praxic manifestations are different in the different stages of the disease.

**Martins & Andrade** report the study *Study of pauses in elderly* in which 128 individuals between 60 and 86 years, of both genders, were assessed about speech disruptions. The authors concluded that elderly presented more speech pauses than younger elderly.

The first Case Report of this issue is reported by **Souza Filho & Massi**, and it refers to *The influence of group structure in the written language of elderly subjects* and describes the role of an elderly group in the development of writing activities directed to one of the participants of this group, which was consolidated after a Language Workshop.

**Pagliarin, Mota & Keske-Soares** present the next Case Report about the *Structural generalization after treatment based on different opposition approaches* that describes the pre- and post-therapy performance of nine children between 4.2 and 6.6 years.

The Literature Review paper is presented by **Cielo, Elias, Brum & Ferreira**, is called *Thyroarytenoid muscle and vocal fry: a literature review* and involves the literature of the last 20 years on the subject.

The New Reflections paper refers to a paper published in 2010 in the Journal of Voice with the title *Measuring quality of life in dysphonic patients: a systematic review of content development in patient-reported outcomes measures* and is commented by **Behlau & Madazio**.

**Mello & Silva** reviewed the paper *Coordination between posture and phonation in vocal effort behavior* published in 2010 in *Folia Phoniatica et Logopedica*.

At last, **Padovani** – our dear SBFa manager presents her doctorate thesis abstract, with the title *Vocal and speech acoustic measures, perceptual-auditory analysis and communication self-evaluation in dysarthrias*.

Therefore there are papers presented by young researchers and by renowned professors from several educational, research and assistance institutions from the whole country, showing the various aspects of Brazilian Speech and Language Pathology and Audiology.