

Orthomolecular Innovation

When we began reviewing and vetting articles for this issue, it became apparent just how important the Journal is to the orthomolecular community. There are literally hundreds of specialty journals covering a range of medical topics, but very few niche journals contain the type of content that we have with each new issue. While there is very little original anymore about the therapeutic use of naturally occurring substances, it is the philosophy and having almost 50 years of published wisdom that has afforded the Journal of Orthomolecular Medicine its uniqueness in allowing like-minded clinicians to have a place to disseminate novel ideas in the field.

I am pleased offer our readership a truly eclectic experience with this issue. We have a terrific article from Dr. Michael Gonzalez and his team about the use of intravenous vitamin C and Zika fever. At the present time, there are significant global concerns about the Zika virus and its impact upon pregnant women and their offspring, and also the rare possibility of a more severe infection following exposure. Once again, we have evidence that intravenous vitamin C, a rather benign treatment, is likely effective for the fever associated with the Zika virus, but also for acute viral infections in general. To my knowledge, we are the first journal to publish on the possible application of intravenous vitamin C to treat the fever associated with the Zika virus.

We also have a tremendous tour de force article by Dr. Thomas E. Levy about the relationship between oral pathogens and chronic disease. For many years now Dr. Levy has steadfastly and meticulously presented on and written about this important and often neglected relationship that has considerable impact upon morbidity and even mortality, and yet no other journal has published on this topic from this inimitable perspective. The article concludes by advising collaboration between dentists and physicians so that patients can receive the best care possible when addressing the inherent medical challenges of chronic disease.

I have an article about the psychoactive effects of orthomolecular substances, which has never been addressed before since most articles focus on their putative biochemical mechanisms. All psychiatric medications possess psychoactive effects, and in doing so, they often produce undesirable effects upon the mental state and functioning in general. Orthomolecular substances, by contrast, are much safer and yet possess important psychoactive effects that could very well shift the mental state toward greater health and functionality.

We also have a guest editorial describing the medical foundations of Dr. Abram Hoffer's work, two interesting letters to the editor covering heart disease and probiotics, and a short communication from Dr. Judith Pentz. Readers will no doubt value and applaud Dr. Pentz on the honesty and authenticity of her words, and her remarkable journey toward "Orthomolecular Wholeness."

Lastly, we have an "In Memoriam" on the late Dr. Erik Paterson. It is difficult to justly describe how much Dr. Paterson meant to the orthomolecular community, to the patients he served, and the loving family that will miss him. He was unassumingly brilliant, combined with just the right amount of tenacity and stubbornness, matched with an unrelenting resoluteness for the correct amount of orthomolecular care for all his patients. Like many that knew him, we will surely miss his presence at future orthomolecular conferences.

As always, I hope this issue further expounds the astounding power of orthomolecular innovation.



—Jonathan E. Prousky, ND, MSc, MA
Editor