Greetings

Foreword

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The journal BIOPHILIA is a new scientific journal, which is about to be fully launched by the International Biophilia Rehabilitation Academy, IBRA in short. The journal’s credo may be described by “A healthier future through research and innovation“. It is designed as a medium for review articles, original papers, and proceedings in the broad field of rehabilitation medicine. We will aim to highlight the most relevant issues in the diagnosis, treatment and management of the whole spectrum of disabilities related to diseases as well as to those developing due to the old age in the process of ‘normal’ physiological aging. The aim will be achieved by presenting the latest developments in basic and clinical research and in technical progress concerning the rehabilitative aids.

The term ‘Biophilia’, literally ‘love of life’, describes a deeply rooted in our nature desire to live as long and well as possible; the desire that reconnects human beings to other living creatures. That psychological aptitude, which helps sustain life, is in fact what medical rehabilitation is all about. The IBRA is an international body uniting rehabilitators, physicians, and other medical professionals as well as engineering experts in designing paraphernalia for rehabilitation. The organization advocates a unique approach to rehabilitation emphasizing a mind-to-body interaction as indispensable part of effective rehabilitation. The interaction has a tremendous influence in so-called motivated rehabilitation in which the rehabilitant actively expresses a desire to lessen disability, and by doing so, to an extent. regains control over the rehabilitation process and its progress.

The IBRA endorses the idea that medical rehabilitation is a process that not only involves the disease and its effects but also has a large psychological component consisting of the ‘love-to-life’ that is closely linked to behavior, personality traits, and other factors. These ideas are aimed at restructuring of the whole field of rehabilitative medicine, making it more health-and-cost-effective. The restructuring also involves the notion that rehabilitation should
be understood not only as a purely medical endeavor, but as a means to present and exercise anti-stress, both mental and physical, strategies aimed at increasing the quality of life in the aged. The IBRA focuses on techniques which enable patients to explore and interact with the rehabilitation effort or even make individually suited new adjustments. That is in essence which differentiates the IBRA’s rehabilitation way from other techniques available.

The IBRA is an evolving entity that will grow as the numbers of cooperating with it researchers, articles published, and initiatives undertaken increase. The knowledge about IBRA and its activities is increasingly widespread all over the world. The organization has by far organized nine international conferences. The IBRA meetings attract speakers representing various aspects of rehabilitation research from all over the world. Several European societies dealing with rehabilitation, mostly in applied science, have shown enormous enthusiasm in organizing additional symposia, as exemplified by recent interests of the Romanian Society for Neurorehabilitation. The IBRA provides a unique environment to network with colleagues from all over Japan and beyond, offering an interactive venue for exciting scientific exchange and to view the latest developments offered by related industry. The new journal 'Biophilia’ will, by presenting scientific data, intensify existing multilateral connections and will become an essential part of IBRA’s scientific forthcoming in the field of motivated rehabilitation.