Editor's Note

The year 2020 marks the 25th anniversary of the *Journal of Managed Care & Specialty Pharmacy* (JMCP). To commemorate this milestone, we will be publishing a series of articles that document the changes to the journal and profession over the past 2 and a half decades. Each month we will reprint an original article from a previous year, dating back to 1995. The reprinted articles will feature topics of significance in our industry. Each reprinted article will be accompanied by a contemporary reflection that will consider the historical significance of the topic, as well as the current and future state.

As January marks the first month in this series, we are featuring 2 articles from JMCP's inaugural issue published in July 1995.

The first article was written by AMCP Past-President Jay Messeroff, and the second article was written by JMCP's first editor-in-chief, Louise J. Sargent. As I review the contributors to the inaugural issue, I can't help but notice many familiar names. For example, Gene Reeder was a member of the Editorial Advisory Board and is still a contributing member today. Sustained service is truly a hallmark of this organization.

Laura E. Happe, PharmD, MPH

Editor-in-Chief

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PERSPECTIVES

AMCP: UNPARALLELED GROWTH

This inaugural issue of the *Journal of Managed Care Pharmacy* published by the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy is a significant turning point in the rapid evolution of managed care into the dominant healthcare system in the United States. Academy members, researchers, students, and others interested in pharmacy in managed care systems will now have access to a definitive reference work devoted to all aspects of the theory and practice of the pharmacy profession in a managed care environment.

Less than seven years after its creation, Academy members are responsible for pharmaceutical needs of nearly 60 million patient lives and influence, in some degree, over one half of the pharmaceutical sales in the nation.

As pharmacy is an integral component of healthcare, so managed care pharmacy is an integral part and parallels the dynamic growth of everexpanding managed care systems. As government and employers vigorously encourage enrollment in cost-effective, high-quality healthcare programs, we can easily see the vast majority of Americans as members of managed care systems by the end of this century. In 1995, HMOs alone include over 55 million Americans, and double-digit growth is projected in the near term.

No longer will patient care be a series of disparate services but will be part of a continuum of care with the managed care pharmacist playing an integral role in disease management and outcomes research. Managed care pharmacists are fast

becoming the source of data crucial to the management of patient care in defined populations. Managed care pharmacists assume pivotal authority by virtue of their traditional roles as key members of P&T committees and participants in the formulary-development process. The managed care pharmacist-with specialized knowledge and skills-is indeed a principal actor at the primary encounter, in acute-care settings, and on into long-term care environments. The Academy of Managed Care is home for managed care pharmacists. The basic tenet of the Academy is to recognize and respond to the needs and interests of the new pharmacy professional. The Academy recognizes, that, as new modalities of drug utilization, oversight, data development, management participation, and the like are

enhanced or come into being, the Academy's mission is to lead in education, research, and policy analysis. The Academy's greatest asset and greatest advantage is its members.

With member participation and expertise our ongoing concerns, our growth and influence is assured. A prime example of excellence through our membership is the initiation of this journal. Louise Sargent and her task force deserve the highest commendation for developing an excellent process that led to publication of this first issue in less than one year. The commencement of this journal during my time as chairman will always be one of my greatest personal satisfactions.

Jay Messeroff, Past President
Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy