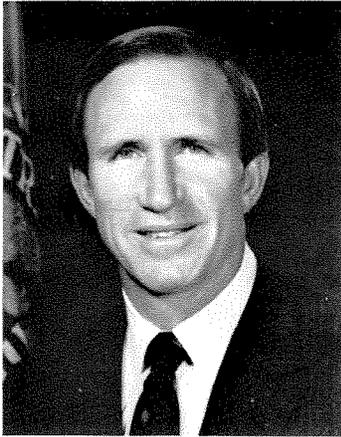


## The Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development



Harry N. Walters

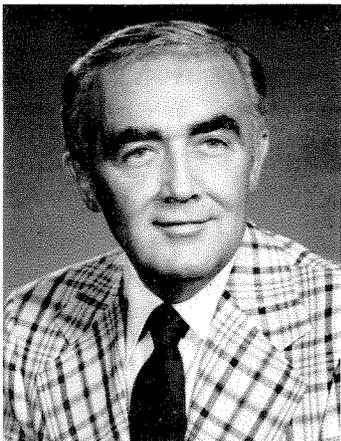
This first issue of the Journal of Rehabilitation R&D is a welcome opportunity for me to restate the Veterans Administration's strong support for the efforts of clinical and research scientists seeking ways to improve the quality of life for disabled veterans.

We are also committed to sharing the results of VA rehabilitation research and development with all who will benefit from the outstanding work being done by our VA team. This Journal will serve as an appropriate vehicle for such sharing.

I look forward to the success of the Journal of Rehabilitation R&D.

**HARRY N. WALTERS**

Administrator  
 Veterans Administration



D. L. Custis, M.D.

Beginning with this issue, VA's respected Bulletin of Prosthetics Research has a new name, the Journal of Rehabilitation R&D (J Rehab R&D). Prosthetics continues to be the highest-priority research area of VA's Rehabilitation R&D program. But as the new name implies, the Journal's content will not be limited to information on prosthetics but will include news from all areas of rehabilitation, including spinal cord injury, mobility, and sensory aids. This is in keeping with the expanded scope and thrust of VA's rehabilitation R&D program for disabled veterans.

VA is anxious to share the results of its research efforts with all. The Journal provides an excellent mechanism to promote the transfer of technology developed in the programs. In this regard, I am pleased to announce that an interagency agreement in this area is in its final stages of development and should be effected soon. Through this arrangement, the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce will help bridge the gap between VA's research and development of rehabilitative devices and commercial productions. In this manner, maximum feasible coordination of agency efforts will be promoted for effectiveness of Federal programs affecting services to veterans.

**DONALD L. CUSTIS, M.D.**

Chief Medical Director  
 Veterans Administration



H. G. Boren, M.D.

Almost all new endeavors of significant value have as their basis a rich tradition such as that represented by the Bulletin of Prosthetics Research. As the goals of Rehabilitation Research and Development are being significantly enhanced to include the more comprehensive creation of new knowledge in larger numbers of fields in considerable depth, the dissemination of this new knowledge remains a laborious but essential part of the research venture. The goal is no less than that of communicating valid, relevant research in rehabilitation—this is the primary function of this new publication entitled the Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development. All good wishes are extended to the investigators, reviewers, producers, and readers in the multiple arenas herein reported in this endeavor which is so critical in rehabilitation research.

**HOLLIS G. BOREN, M.D.**

Assistant Chief Medical Director  
for Research and Development  
Veterans Administration



M. J. Giannini, M.D.

I am proud of the current changes affecting VA's esteemed Bulletin of Prosthetics Research, so ably edited by Dr. Eugene F. Murphy, who has just retired. First published over 20 years ago, the Bulletin will now be known as the Journal of Rehabilitation R&D. It will be published quarterly. One issue each year will be devoted to progress reports for all VA Rehabilitation R&D projects, as well as reports from other Federal agencies such as the National Institute of Handicapped Research, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and from other domestic and foreign research scientists.

I encourage your participation by contributing scientific articles on rehabilitation research and development for publication. All articles published in the Journal of Rehabilitation R&D will be scientifically refereed. I am fully committed to excellence in technology transfer and information dissemination which will improve the quality of life of the disabled and handicapped community.

Again, thanks to Dr. Murphy; your continued interest and support is appreciated.

**MARGARET J. GIANNINI, M.D.**

Director  
Rehabilitation Research & Development Service  
Veterans Administration

It is a privilege to add my commitment to that of the Veterans Administration's leadership in making the benefits of technology available to disabled veterans. Publication of research articles of the highest scientific quality will continue to be the main focus of this Journal. Articles presenting state of the art summaries, findings of major research projects, and promising new directions are especially desired. A new section of the Journal or, alternatively, a new publication series, presenting technical information in a format readily usable by practicing clinicians, is under consideration. Your comments and suggestions would be greatly valued.

Seldon P. Todd, Jr.  
Editor  
Journal of Rehabilitation R&D