



## Letter from the Editor

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Dear IJFAE Readers,

Although it is always dangerous to think about disease, like COVID-19, as controlled or even controllable, I wanted to take a pause as we share our fourth volume of information, discussion, and new questions about first aid education. The pandemic provided each of us and our organizations with not only challenges but also new opportunities to see education, and in particular first aid education, through the lens of those who needed it most—and then work to get it to them.

In Vol 3, Issue 1 we worked to tackle some of the considerations and implications of COVID-19 for our society. With masses of people required to stay at home, the lack of school and systems of health at breaking points, we as a society needed to find our resilience. This, of course, means working through everyday first aid needs and the life-threatening emergencies that didn't stop for COVID-19. You and your organizations stepped up to see the possibilities afforded by technology and the basic clinical science that was most easily transmissible and build new systems of “delivery.”

Over the next few years, I expect you and your colleagues to examine this critical time to see the implications of pandemic on types of injury and acute illnesses and its costs to society. We will then be able to see how our efforts can better contribute toward resiliency and recovery from a disaster like a pandemic. We also need to stay attuned to how we can better advocate for first aid education in times of relative health. In this issue, we will explore new approaches to first aid education through reviews of topics covered in the new 2020 International First Aid, Resuscitation and Education Guidelines. Reflecting on how these Guidelines are relevant and usable across contexts where people face different dangers and varying levels of access to medical care is an important part of evolving science and practice. Also, we introduce to you the Cochrane Corner, which attempts to acknowledge the continuing review of evidence for first aid, and provide a commentary on how it applies to first aid education. Utilizing the messages and science from the IJFAE is just a start: we need more of you to contribute your expertise and share it with your connections in your professional networks to drive the revolution.

This year has seen some changes for our Editorial Board. With sadness for the IJFAE, we accepted the resignation of our founding senior editor and greatest cheerleader, Mr. Don Marentette. Don not only volunteered countless hours but also worked to establish the IJFAE through his multiple professional networks so that all first aid training organizations could benefit from research and evidence-based discussions. Don's commitment to those historically underserved and systematically disadvantaged set a foundation for the IJFAE mission. Don, a simple thank you will never be enough, but know that we are humbled to have worked with you and will continue to work toward your vision of sharing the good that comes from helping each other in times of need.

Our Editorial Board officially welcomed Mr. Shawn McLaren. Shawn, who serves as Chief Learning Officer for St. John Ambulance Canada. We look forward to him sharing and guiding future discussions on the implementation of basic science and evidence-based guidelines in large training organizations. The Board also welcomed Dr. Tammy Slater of the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. She brings to the board expertise on the connection of first aid and nursing, as well as evidence-based guidelines development experience with the American Heart Association.

Let's not forget these COVID-19 lessons of innovation, change, and resiliency. The IJFAE is a community for which ideas and relationships are fostered and nurtured to the betterment of humanity, one emergency at a time.

In humble service,

Jeffrey

Editor-in-Chief

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