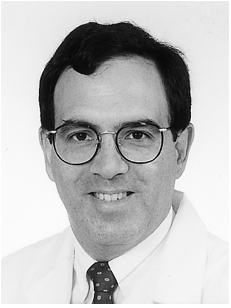
PROLOGUE

A Message from the Editors on the Japanese Edition of "*Haemophilia*"



Christine A. Lee (left)
Craig M. Kessler

The journal *Haemophilia* was launched in October 1994 and has now completed four years of publication. During that time, it has published the abstracts of two meetings of the World Federation of Haemophilia-The XXII Meeting, which was held in Dublin 1996 and The XXIII Meeting, which was held in the Hague in 1998. At the time of The XXIII Meeting of the World Federation of Haemophilia, a substantial State-of-the-Art volume was also published under the banner of the journal.

Until 1998, *Haemophilia* was a quarterly journal but during 1998, it moved to bi-monthly publication because of the increasing number of manuscripts, which had been submitted. It had always been the aim of this journal to provide a forum for both the "developed" and "developing" world and we believe we have achieved this in reflection of the abstracts submitted and the papers published. Haemophilia is a rare disorder and it is a field in which there is rapid change - indeed, it provides one of the best examples in medicine of how advances in basic science and clinical research can, in a very short time, lead to advances in clinical practice. We are therefore delighted that the steady expansion of scientific literature relating to the comprehensive care of haemophilia, which is published within the journal, can now be available to Japanese readers. With the kind support of Baxter Limited as sponsors and Dr Akira Yoshioka from the Haemophilia Editorial Board, who will be supervising translations, a Japanese translation of selected articles from *Haemophilia* will be available during 1999. This is really a significant achievement for haemophilia in Japan.