

# Care for elderly people

## EDITORIAL

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Gerontology and Geriatrics cover a wide area, which involves well being in various aspects of the ageing population and includes health ageing, social and medical care, community care, and long-term care. We are glad that we have received a wide spectrum of submissions to the *Asian Journal of Gerontology and Geriatrics* covering a wide variety of issues related to gerontology and geriatrics.

It is timely to discuss how long-term care should be divided between institutional and community establishments. Liu<sup>1</sup> highlights the importance of examining the role of the family involvement in making decisions about admission to long-term care facilities in Taiwan. This is an important area to address in the context of Asian cultures, in which family relationship are strong. Lou et al<sup>2</sup> appropriately address the issue of elderly people who prefer to stay in the community, and this should guide us to gear services to meet the needs of those who prefer to stay in the community, despite their functional impairments and needs for long-term care. Related to the topic of long-term care, the issue of stroke and how the resulting functional changes should influence the planning of appropriate support services. Chan et al<sup>3</sup> address this aspect of medical and community care for older people. A proper assessment of older people's functional status (mobility and activities of daily living) is the mainstay of determining their needs and the services they require. Wang et al<sup>4</sup> evaluate various mobility tests for assessing the community-dwelling elderly.

### References

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