Editor's Note

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Dedicated to improving and stressing excellence in education through the development of knowledge, this issue provides information to assist educators in reaching these goals. What the authors have reported should inspire and promote enthusiasm for learning by educators, administrators, and teachers in the health care arena.

One topic, misunderstood, sometimes, is Hospice Care. The critical element as reported by Holman includes Hospice philosophy, types of care provided, the interdisciplinary approach to patient and family support, specific experiences with dying patients and responsibility of Hospice in the care of AIDS patients. Sandiford and Farris studied policy and procedure changes in health care agencies regarding AIDS. They reported that changes relative to patient care had occurred, attitude changes were evident, and that students in health occupations programs were not adequately informed about recommended guidelines relative to AIDS, prior to assignments to clinical agencies.

Nursing home reform and implications for nurse aide training was examined by Syre, Schira, and Syre. The authors stressed the impact of the new law on health occupations programs. Another major thrust, a model and precedent for meeting minimum high school science graduation requirements in health occupations programs, was revealed by Hicks which may assist other states in revising programs to receive science credits.

In regard to attrition in the Community College Allied Health Programs; McCabe, Rzonca, and Maxey studied variables such as academic performance, cognitive measures of basic skills, and need for assistance. Findings suggested early intervention programs should be implemented for students applying to the allied health programs.

Of utmost importance is leadership in the health care profession. In order to determine leadership attributes of HOSA officers, Walters and Wilmoth studied high school chapter leaders. Implication were revealed for those in advisory roles to HOSA student leaders.

Webster-Houck reviewed a book which revealed a description of senile dementia, Alzheimer's type. Lowe reviewed 3 videocassettes related to home health care and Thompson reviewed a videotape which addressed problems, issues and proposed solutions for teacher preparation and education programs. All provide valuable information.

In a nation where 30% of people are involved in education either as students or educators the findings related to these issues, concerns, and mandates are important to us all. We must stress and strive for excellence in our educational endeavors.