

The publication of another issue of the Internal Medicine journal – the seventh – must be received with a serene but deserved and hopeful satisfaction.

The daring initiative but courageously assumed in a good moment, presuming the Society lacks a communication instrument not only with its members but with the medical community in general, deserves to be welcome and faced as the soul of the Internal Medicine Portuguese Society whose activity should not be limited to occasional manifestations, even if widely seen, undoubtedly and usually valid, but potentially ephemera not to say dangerously dispersing.

Although tending to remain the preferential repository to the memory of the Portuguese Internist Intelligence it is desirable that the INTERNAL MEDICINE Journal acts also an active means of discussing and defining the perspectives and scientific, clinical, ethical and pedagogic rules of our Internal Medicine, regarding the role and objective due in a high standard professional practice, contemporary and deprived of dilettantism.

The magnificent increase in knowledge emerging from the multiple sciences in which is supported the art we practice, the overwhelming development of technology and the respective economic consequences and economists, re-update the needs and the concept of the synthesis and integration in the essential spirit of Medicine and in particular of Internal Medicine as a means to formulate and solve in an timely, cost effective and humanly manner the problems of the sick person.

Such progress must be referred to in the sense of committing those who have been in charge of the structures and means, in terms of preserving, preventing and treating the disease on one hand, and as far as we are concerned for a constant and appro-



prate increase on the level of scientific background and technical ability of Internists physicians and the reminder of the health professionals.

The Internal Medicine Portuguese Society journal should be – and can be in many ways – an active agent for such objectives. ■

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Carlos Soares de Sousa'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a horizontal line.

Carlos Soares de Sousa