

From the Editor- in-Chief

Dear Colleagues,
Welcome to another issue of the *Limb Preservation Journal*. We are excited to share with you several thought-provoking articles about the state of amputation prevention and to announce the formation of a new Limb Preservation Alliance that brings together Wounds Canada, The American Limb Preservation Society, the Canadian Podiatric Medical Association, and D-Foot International. The focus of the Alliance will be the development of education, advocacy and awareness initiatives that improve limb preservation efforts across the world.



To provide an appreciation for the limb preservation field's rapid development, Dr. William Jeffcoate from the United Kingdom reflects on his decades of service and describes the challenges facing interdisciplinary amputation prevention work in the modern era. Dr. Jeffcoate stresses the importance of adequate documentation and data-gathering in order to better track and improve patient outcomes. This is a recurrent concern that is shared by amputation prevention experts from across the world and is one of the most important challenges to advancing our field.

I believe that part of the solution to overcoming this information barrier is to conduct high-quality mixed methods research studies that combine database and patient-centred research methodologies. In this issue, Dr. Kathleen Stevens and colleagues share an excellent example of such a study. Their practical and informative article

combines quantitative and qualitative research methods to validate an education and infrared thermometer-based intervention for preventing diabetic foot complications. The outcomes of such studies are useful in communicating with other clinicians, as well as funding agencies and policy-makers.

Also in this issue are thought-provoking articles on providing individuals experiencing homelessness with adequate footwear support, the tremendous economic burden of diabetes on the health-care system, a review of the use of insoles for improving the outcomes of individuals living with a below-knee amputation and two case reports on the use of novel approaches for managing diabetic foot and venous leg ulcers.

Finally, we are excited to announce that previously published articles in the *Limb Preservation Journal* have been retroactively assigned a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) number to facilitate their tracking and sharing. We hope that you enjoy reading this issue and wish you and your team all the best of success in combating preventable lower extremity amputations.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ahmed Kayssi".

Ahmed Kayssi, MD MSc MPH FRCSC