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## *From the editor • Van die redakteur*

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### **SA Family Practice moves on**

In this issue we offer our readers a new service. The Medical Sex Journal of South Africa, under the capable editorship of Bernard Levinson, is now also published by SA Family Practice. It will appear quarterly as a supplement and will also be available separately. With this addition to our journal we hope to further increase the breadth of subjects dealt with.

SA Family Practice is a long way from where it started in January 1980 as a

Thomsons' publication and from where it was relaunched on January 1984 with the SA Academy of Family Practice/Primary Care as the publishers. Its growth is paralleled by the resurgence of awareness and self-respect of generalists of all kinds in South Africa whom we hope to continue to serve with locally produced articles and news.

*Sam Feheren*

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## *Guest Editorial*

### **Sex returns home**

We wish to congratulate Medical Sex Journal of South Africa on joining SA Family Practice. Without meaning to sound smug, we feel it is right that sex has come back (dare I say it?) to where it belongs, in the bosom of the family practitioner, and in this journal, not in a gynaecology or psychology journal.

Sexology is now being taught to undergraduates at our medical schools and the general practitioner is better equipped to deal with sexual dysfunctions in 1987.

Because of our holistic approach and being mind and body doctors, we are ideally placed to handle sexual problems, as we see

the patient as a whole, not compartmentalised.

I still remember a middle aged man with premature ejaculation, going to sex therapists, when the cause was a prostatitis. Sex therapy at the moment in South Africa, is being done by psychiatrists, psychologists, urologists, gynaecologists, and even social workers.

Surely general practice embraces all those disciplines? Not every sexual problem can be handled by the general practitioner, but most can, and the difficult cases can always be referred.

*Basil Michaelides*