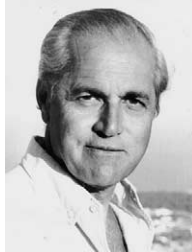




Foreword
Tetraplegic upper limb



Raoul Tubiana
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This issue on the tetraplegic upper limb is the second international *Hand Clinics* issue (the first was dedicated to the pediatric upper extremity). The guest editor, Caroline Leclercq, has tremendous experience in the treatment of tetraplegic patients in a specialized rehabilitation center. Furthermore, she has tried to make this issue as international as possible.

Tetraplegic patients are distributed all over the world, largely a result of a recent increase of traumatic injury of the spinal cord caused by motor vehicle and sports injuries; however, surgical treatment is limited to a few specialized centers. We hope that the articles in this issue will spark interest in this difficult and rather new surgical topic.

The next international issue of the *Hand Clinics* will be dedicated to the musician's hand. Functional disorders in instrumental musicians have been known for a long time, but only recently have the complex pathologies affecting

musicians been elucidated. Medical practitioners usually refer these cases to specialists. Musicians with functional problems affecting the hand are referred to hand surgeons not because they need surgical treatment (surgery plays only a small role in the treatment of these problems), but because hand surgery is the only medical discipline totally dedicated to the hand. There has been an increasing number of musicians with functional problems in recent years; consequently, it is imperative that hand surgeons be made aware of this new upper extremity pathology.

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