MANUAL THERAPY AWARDS

To encourage research in manual therapy, Cardon Rehabilitation Products, TherEx, OPTP and
*The Journal of Manual & Manipulative Therapy* are sponsoring prizes to be awarded based on scientific merit in three
areas:

1. Experimental studies,
2. Case studies and
3. Review articles.

Awards will be selected from all papers published in JMMT in 2009. Award winners will be announced in
Volume 18, Number 1, 2010.

**The Cardon Award For Excellence in a Published Research Article**

To encourage research in manual therapy, Cardon Rehabilitation Products and JMMT are sponsoring a prize in the
amount of $1000 for an outstanding experimental study. The goal of the experimental study is to evaluate a manual
therapy assessment or treatment technique. The concept of validity is central to the experimental study. Thus within
the confines of the study, the results are accurate, the method and analysis used can bear up under scrutiny and the
interpretation of the findings is supported by the data collected. In addition, the conclusions reported can be general-
ized to practice settings and subjects outside those described in the study. The format for the experimental study also
requires that the researchers make their assumptions clear, their methods repeatable and their interpretations clearly
separate from the methods and results. Experimental papers provide a forum for presenting one's own findings and
conclusions and for arguing for or against competing hypotheses in manual therapy.

**The TherEx Award For Excellence in a Published Case Study**

To encourage case studies in manual therapy, TherEx and JMMT are sponsoring a prize of $750 for an outstanding
case presentation. The goal of the case study is to report on a patient or a small group of patients that a manual ther-
pist feels should be brought to the attention of colleagues. Specifically, the case study method integrates basic science
knowledge with patient assessment and treatment techniques. Within each case, emphasis is placed on the most
clinically relevant aspects of each musculoskeletal condition. In addition, a selective review of the literature is also
included for each case study. In all, the cases provide the reader with information about clinical decision making. The
intent is to facilitate critical thinking and to promote professional growth.

**The OPTP Award For Excellence in a Published Review of the Literature**

To encourage reviews of the literature in manual therapy, OPTP and JMMT are sponsoring a prize of $750 for an out-
standing review article. The goal of the review article is to present a large amount of information on a subject comprehen-
sively and efficiently. In addition to a command of the literature in a specific area of manual therapy, the writer must also
apply critical appraisal skills to material that is being reviewed. Specifically, it is not enough for a review to summarize the
findings of research studies and case reports. Some comment should be made on the research design and methodologi-
cal quality of the work being reviewed. By combining content review with methodological critique, review articles are
intended to bring clinicians and researchers up to date on the state of the art in manual therapy.