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Tribute

John Wales

It is with sadness that we report that John Wales has died suddenly aged 79. As a senior, founding member of the *Practical Diabetes* Editorial Board, John's contribution to the journal's success was considerable. Through his characteristic personal perspective, derived from substantial clinical experience, John provided a common sense and pragmatic wisdom, that very much shaped the special philosophy of the journal as seen today. Of particular popularity, his 'Consult the Experts' series, involving a number of case histories, served as an invaluable educational guide to clinical problem solving for all of the multidisciplinary diabetes team.

For 30 years John Wales was Senior Lecturer in Medicine at the University of Leeds and Honorary Consultant Physician at the General

Infirmary at Leeds. At various times he also held prestigious appointments abroad, including at the George Washington University School of Medicine, USA and at the United Arab Emirates University, as the Foundation Professor and Chairman of the newly established School of Medicine. Latterly, as Visiting Consultant Diabetologist to the Beijing Chaoyang Diabetes Hospital, John was instrumental in making recommendations in China for a modern and more western provision of high-quality diabetes care.

Although this testimony is primarily written to express our enormous gratitude to John for all that he contributed to *Practical Diabetes* over many years, he will also be much remembered as the driving force behind the launch of the Association of British Clinical Diabetologists

(ABCD). As the Association's Founding Chairman, John was of great inspiration to his peers, charismatic and with a determination to ensure that people with diabetes should expect to receive the highest standard of diabetes care from their professional advisors.

We were all captured by his challenges to do better, and will very much miss him, but he leaves a wonderful legacy for us to follow.

Professor Ken Shaw,
MA, MD, FRCP

The 'Consult the Experts' series, of which John Wales was Series Editor, is available to view on the *Practical Diabetes* website, url: www.practicaldiabetes.com/article/obituary-john-wales/.