

Editorial

Dear Colleagues,

With these lines we would like to introduce ourselves as the new Editors of *Chemotherapy*. We accepted the invitation of Karger Publishers to take over the duties from the previous Editors because the journal's prestige and credibility appealed to us. *Chemotherapy* has been going for decades and has witnessed a number of major changes and discoveries in the field. We have nonetheless realized that the boundaries of 'chemotherapy' are broad enough to call for some changes in the journal, and we hope they will meet your liking.

Chemotherapy means very many things in antimicrobial and anticancer settings and, to some extent, it comes across as a word from the past. We even considered changing the journal's name to narrow down or articulate the field and make the journal a specialty one. We dropped this idea not only because we felt it was iconoclastic but also because we had to acknowledge that the word 'chemotherapy' will always convey the magic of something that comes from chemistry and cures diseases. But some changes were necessary, the first being that the two sides of the coin (cancer and infectious diseases) are different enough to warrant dedicated Editors. Professor Grazia Graziani will be Associate Editor for the anticancer section, and Professor Giovanni Delogu will be Associate Editor for the antimicrobial section. We hope that having two Associate Editors will accelerate the review process while also warranting that each submission be rigorously handled by the best possible consultants. I will act as Editor-in-Chief to ensure that everything be done quickly, politely, and productively.

The antimicrobial section of the *Chemotherapy* will continue to publish preclinical and clinical research that embraces diagnostic or therapeutic approaches to infectious diseases, from discovering new antimicrobials to characterizing their mechanisms of action and scientific foundations of drug resistance. But we ask you, the contributors, to move beyond descriptive findings and to explore cause-and-effect relationships in pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and clinical efficacy of any antimicrobial, be it antibacterial, antifungal, antiviral, or antiparasitic. The authors may want to submit under this wide umbrella anything ranging from drug discovery to molecularly oriented epidemiology of drug resistance, new sensitivity assays, clinical trials, and case reports that provide lessons to improve clinical practice.

The anticancer section of *Chemotherapy* will share the same philosophy. Old-fashioned chemotherapeutics remain the cornerstones of many oncologic treatments and, therefore, the journal will continue to publish biochemical, pharmacological, and clinical reports on these agents. But in the era of biologically designed new drugs (monoclonal antibodies, kinase inhibitors, antisense oligonucleotides, chimeric proteins, immunomodulators, etc.) we wish to make the journal a good place to submit work on these agents. Specific topics of interest will include preclinical and clinical development of novel therapeutic agents, new drug targets and formulations, mechanisms of drug resistance, biomarkers of response, and clinical studies in special populations (children and the elderly). Meta-analyses of clinical studies and case reports of outstanding importance will be also published.

For both sections the article categories have been slightly reshaped to meet the authors' expectations and help them to submit their work in the format they feel is most appropriate. Please read the Guidelines for Authors for details.

We know *Chemotherapy* will have to compete with other prestigious titles. We need to rise through the ranks of impact factors and other indices of publication standing. This would not be possible if we could not count on the enthusiasm and scientific curiosity of our authors and readers. Their suggestions and criticism will help us to keep things in control and to strengthen the journal's reputation and popularity. We also count on the continued help and support from the Editors given

so passionately and in such a dedicated way before we picked up the baton. They will remain with us on the journal's Board. Finally, we count on the expertise and tolerance of the Editorial Staff at the headquarters of Karger Publishers.

We would like to thank you for sharing our hopes and for choosing *Chemotherapy* to read the latest in the field and to submit your work.

Giorgio Minotti, Rome
Editor-in-Chief

Grazia Graziani, Rome
Giovanni Delogu, Rome
Associate Editors