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Editorial

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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As we look back on another year of activities, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all members of our Editorial Board, our reviewers, and, of course, the authors who have chosen to publish their work in *Dermatopathology*. The continued engagement of this community is essential to the journal, and I am grateful for the time, expertise, and enthusiasm that so many colleagues contribute.

The journal is developing well. Our Impact Factor has increased to 1.8, and our CiteScore currently stands at 2.7 (Q2). These are encouraging results and reflect the efforts of everyone involved. At the same time, I believe we should remain ambitious. Our goal is not simply to improve these metrics, but to establish the journal as an increasingly attractive platform for the global dermatopathological community, including meaningful scientific discussion and contributions that are relevant to our daily practice. In the coming years, we want to place an even stronger emphasis on scientific communication and the global visibility of the journal.

Our collaboration with the European Society of Dermatopathology (ESDP) remains central to this ambition. The successful Dermatopathology 2030 roundtable discussion in Basel in May 2026 (https://www.a-66.ch/en/osc, accessed on 11 November 2026) was an excellent example of what we can achieve when the society, the journal, and the publisher work closely together. The subsequent publication of the related perspective article [1] has allowed these discussions to reach an even wider audience. The extension of our agreement between ESDP and MDPI until 2035 provides an excellent basis for continuing this successful collaboration.

We are also pleased to see the launch of the new ESDP website (https://www.esdp.net/), which represents an important step toward improving communication and visibility within our community. One initiative we are planning is an Editor's Choice feature, through which we will regularly highlight selected articles and provide additional insights into their content. We also hope to explore new formats for educational exchange in collaboration with the ESDP, including expert-led discussions of interesting case reports.

Another priority is to further broaden our international reach. We are pleased to see growing interest and submissions from different parts of the world, including the United States and Asia. We would like to build on this development by strengthening our contacts with dermatopathology societies and colleagues in regions that are not yet sufficiently represented in the journal. At the same time, our focus will remain firmly on attracting scientifically sound, carefully prepared manuscripts. We welcome contributions from established experts as well as early-career colleagues, and we want the journal to be a place where new ideas and perspectives can find an appropriate audience. In particular, we encourage submissions that explore molecular dermatopathology, digital pathology workflows, and rare cutaneous malignancies, which are rapidly evolving fields shaping the future of our specialty.

Check for updates

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The increasing use of artificial intelligence also raises important questions for scientific publishing. We recognize that AI-based tools can be helpful, for example, in improving language and supporting certain aspects of manuscript preparation. However, the responsibility for the content, accuracy, originality, and integrity of every manuscript must always remain with its authors. Equally, peer review depends on independent expert judgment, critical thinking, and confidentiality. For this reason, the use of AI to generate peer-review reports is not permitted. We will continue to approach these developments carefully and transparently, with scientific integrity as our guiding principle.

There is certainly much to look forward to. However, the further development of the journal cannot be achieved by the Editorial Office or the Editor-in-Chief alone. It depends on the active involvement of our entire community. I would therefore like to encourage all of you to share your ideas, suggest new topics for Special Issues, recommend potential contributors, and get involved in the journal's platform activities. Whether through submitting original research, contributing a review or perspective, participating in peer review, or simply helping us reach new colleagues, every contribution makes a difference. As an open access journal, we remain fully committed to the principles of Open Science, ensuring that high-quality research is immediately and freely accessible to clinicians and researchers worldwide, without financial or geographical barriers.

I look forward to continuing this work together and to seeing the journal grow as an open, relevant, and internationally connected platform for dermatopathology. Thank you once again for your trust, support, and continued collaboration.

Conflicts of Interest: The author declares no conflict of interest.

Reference

1. Tomasini, C.; Fernández-Figueras, M.-T.; Kaya, G. Dermatopathology 2030: Navigating the Digital, Computational and Molecular Convergence for Precision Diagnostics—Originated from a Round Table Discussion at A 66, Basel. *Dermatopathology* **2026**, *13*, 47. [CrossRef] [PubMed]

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