EDITORIAL

Challenges are opportunities

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Molecular imaging is continuously growing and has become a paramount aspect of medical imaging, being increasingly integrated with different and new technologies. Technology allows the analysis of impressive amounts of data and identifies connections between different parts of what we want to evaluate, and often even reveals the whole picture. Imaging is key to successful treatment and we see an increasing number of possibilities for therapies aimed at targets we can visualize. In this expanding world of opportunities provided by our discipline, the *European Journal of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging* (EJNMMI) has played and will play a fundamental role, along with the other journals of the EJNMMI family.

In recent years, nuclear medicine imaging technologies have been integrated with therapeutic options shared with other disciplines. Diagnostic and therapeutic applications of radiopharmaceuticals have been demonstrated to be effective, and are increasingly used in different clinical settings. Dosimetry can provide a view of the possible benefits and harms to patients of integrated imaging and treatment modalities.

In years to come, I will assist in the evolution of this fascinating world of opportunities from a new perspective. The EJNMMI should facilitate the inclusion of all disciplines that are integrated with nuclear medicine, including integrated molecular, functional and morphological imaging generated with different technologies, integrated therapeutic applications, quantitative analyses and artificial intelligence applications. The introduction of advanced imaging technologies, such as radiomics and radiogenomics, is going to have a positive impact on the way we can use data extracted from images. Artificial intelligence techniques will have a strong impact not only in optimizing imaging techniques, but especially in integrating quantitative data from imaging, clinical records and "omics" data.

The EJNMMI is 42 years old and in perfect shape. Our journal has evolved with the European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM) throughout the years, sharing successes and challenges. The strong link between the journal and the association has made it possible for both to grow to the level of excellence we have seen in recent years. I have the privilege to have followed two outstanding colleagues: Peter Ell and Ignasi Carriò. It is because of their work, together with Springer Nature and the EANM, that our Journal stands as one of the top journals in the field. Leadership is important, but a journal grows because of its content. The high ranking of EJNMMI is due to the incredible amount of high-quality contributions that you, the authors, have provided for publication in these pages. You have made it possible for this journal to stand as one of the top publications, and I am confident that EJNMMI will grow further, together with our discipline.

I am looking forward to the challenge of my new role and to working with you in making EJNMMI and our discipline even more successful.

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