Welcome to Volume 8 of *Breast Cancer Management*

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As the new Editor for *Breast Cancer Management*, it is with great excitement that I introduce the first issue of Volume 8. 2019 has lots of interesting things to be excited for; new projects, new ideas and, of course, more excellent content from all of our authors. The return of our Journal Watch series will help to widen the range of topic areas that we are able to publish, increasing our coverage of the latest information in the field. We have recently been accepted for listing on the Directory of Open Access Journals, something that can only be beneficial in increasing the reach of the articles we publish.

However, before we start this new period I would like to look back over the past year and our highlights from Volume 7 and 2018.

Content highlights of 2018

The standard of content that we publish has remained high. This is due to both our authors and our reviewers who utilize our peer review and revisions policy to ensure all work is at its best. We have received a variety of article types from authors across the world, each providing novel perspectives, as well as interesting and exciting developments in the fields of breast cancer diagnosis and treatment.

The most-read article from Volume 7 is a review that also happens to be the most-read article that has ever been published in the journal. In this article, Kimberly Corbin and Robert Mutter, both of the Mayo Clinic (MN, USA), discussed the use of proton beam therapy for treatment of early-stage and locally advanced breast cancer [1]. The ongoing research into this novel treatment shows its promise for various clinical applications and highlights its potential for reducing side effects relative to current treatments. However, as with any new technique, there are multiple challenges to overcome before its clinical use. Further research is needed to establish the future for proton beam therapy and its role in breast cancer therapies.

Our reviews have proved particularly popular in 2018, with two more making it into our list of most-read articles. Leonie Voorwerk, Marije Kat and Marleen Kok from The Netherlands Cancer Institute Amsterdam (The Netherlands) reviewed the future for biomarkers in predicting an individual's response to immunotherapy [2]. Looking at the breast tumor microenvironment, as well as the putative biomarkers of other tumor types, the team discussed the factors that can guide future studies investigating the possibility of introducing personalized immunotherapy to clinical practice. A second review, written by Jennifer Zocca *et al.* (Maiden Lane Medical, NY, USA), gives a review of advances in pain management for breast cancer patients as well as potential future directions [3]. With mortality decreasing, maintaining quality of life is a key issue with multiple methods available although, as the authors concluded, more work is needed in this area to improve efficacy of therapies.

Editorial board

To our Editorial board, we thank you for your continued input, be it in an ambassadorial, advisory or authorship role. Led by our Senior Editors J Michael Dixon (University of Edinburgh, UK) and V Craig Jordan (MD Anderson, TX, USA) our international board provides valuable assistance and advice that facilitates the publication process; we greatly look forward to working together in the coming year.

On this note, if you are interested in joining our advisory board or wish to provide feedback or suggestions for the journal, please do not hesitate to get in touch; we value any and all input that can contribute to the growth and development of the journal.

Article outreach

To help further spread the work we publish, we continue to utilize the power of social media and share new work through platforms such as Twitter to ensure articles can be shared with the largest possible audience. If you do not already, we welcome you to follow us on Twitter (@fsgbmt). In using social media, it is our aim to reach all relevant stakeholders in the field of breast cancer management, including researchers, clinicians, charities, patients, academics/educators and patient advocates, just to mention a few.

Our partnership with the site Oncology Central [4] continues, providing authors with the opportunity to put their work on the Oncology Central website and be seen by its wide readership base. Registration to Oncology Central is free and allows you to keep up-to-date with the latest developments in cancer via unparalleled free access to the latest news, opinion, peer-reviewed journal articles, multimedia and exclusive content.

Conclusion

Our readers remain central to the success of our journal and we welcome any feedback. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any suggestions of what you would like to see featured or any article proposals of your own. We welcome a wide range of unsolicited article proposals so please do get in touch for more information.

I would like to finish by once again thanking all of the authors and reviewers who helped to make Volume 7 possible; we hope to continue to build on this success and look forward to another great year.

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