Welcome to the 16th volume of *Future Oncology*

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To all our readers, we are delighted to welcome you to the 16th volume of *Future Oncology*. The year 2019 was another exciting year for the journal, with the continued publication of timely, high quality and impactful manuscripts. Highlights of the last year include an issue increase to 36 issues per year, a special focus issue discussing optimal treatment sequences and an even stronger collaboration with our online knowledge hub, OncologyCentral [1,2].

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of our valued Editorial Board members, readers and contributors for their continued support. As we move into 2020, we look forward to aiding the journals' continued progression and development as well as considering the landscape of cancer research over the next decade.

Content highlights of 2019

At the time of writing (November 2019), our most read article was a short communication by Maximilian Hochmair (Otto Wagner Hospital, Vienna, Austria) and colleagues titled 'Sequential afatinib and osimertinib in patients with *EGFR* mutation-positive non-small-cell lung cancer: updated analysis of the observational GioTag study' [3]. This study provided an update on previous results from the original GioTag study published in *Future Oncology* in 2018 [4].

Another of our most popular reads was a short communication titled 'Nintedanib plus docetaxel after progression on immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy: insights from VARGADO, a prospective study in patients with lung adenocarcinoma' by Christian Groché (Evangelische Lungenklinik, Berlin, Germany) and colleagues [5]. The article highlights the potential clinical benefit of nintedanib plus docetaxel in patients who were unresponsive to prior immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy.

Also highly read was Nicolas Girard's (Institut du Thorax Curie-Montsouris, Paris, France) review discussing the optimization of outcomes and treatment sequences in *EGFR* mutation-positive non-small-cell lung cancer [6]. This review was an update on Girard's previous review published in *Future Oncology* in 2018, 'Optimizing outcomes in *EGFR* mutation-positive non-small-cell lung cancer: which tyrosine kinase inhibitor and when?' [7].

Special mention goes to the following articles which have achieved the highest Altmetric scores in the journal during 2019 as we continue our successful partnership with the platform:

- Our highest score was for the previously mentioned 'Sequential afatinib and osimertinib in patients with *EGFR* mutation-positive non-small-cell lung cancer: updated analysis of the observational GioTag study' – Altmetric score: 96 [3].
- We also received high scores for Toni Leigh Mortimer (Stellenbosch University, South Africa) and colleagues' review 'Cannabinoids: the lows and the highs of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting' and Charles Dunton (Vermillion, TX, USA) and colleagues' original research article 'Ethnic disparity in clinical performance between multivariate index assay and CA125 in detection of ovarian malignancy' [8,9]. Altmetric scores: 68 and 53, respectively.
- Another high-scoring manuscript was a clinical trial protocol describing the rationale and design of AIPAC, a double-blind, randomized, multicenter Phase IIb study evaluating IMP321 plus paclitaxel as a first-line chemotherapy in hormone receptor-positive metastatic breast cancer patients [10]. Altmetric score: 44.

Figure 1. Proportion of readership demographics for *Future Oncology* in 2019.

- Finally, a more recently published open-access article that examines journal retractions in oncology, authored by Pan Pantziarka and Lydie Meheus (Anticancer Fund), has seen a quick and positive reception from the community [11]. Altmetric score: 41.

Conference highlights

The editorial team of *Future Oncology* attended a number of international and London-based conferences throughout 2019 and enjoyed connecting with authors and readers from across the globe. In attending these conferences, we facilitated poignant interviews with a number of noted researchers and members of our editorial board as well as gaining more of an awareness of ongoing research and critical issues in oncology. We hope to continue this over the year 2020.

OncologyCentral provided detailed coverage of all the conferences that we attended. Some noted conferences that we hope to attend again during 2020 are the following:

- American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting 2019; Atlanta, GA, USA
- 2019 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting; Chicago, IL, USA
- European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) Congress 2019; Barcelona, Spain
- 2019 National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) Cancer Conference; Glasgow, UK

Readership demographics

It is great to see that, in 2019, our journal is being read throughout the world, with the highest number of readers being from North America (42%), Asia (29%) and Europe (24%) (Figure 1). It is interesting to see that the number of readers from North America has increased from 35% in 2018 to 42% in 2019.

Authorship demographics

In 2019, we continue to receive high quality content from across the globe. Authors from Europe submitted the highest volume of content (42%), followed by Asia and North America (21%) (Figure 2). We have seen an increase in content from Asia, from 29% in 2018 to 34% in 2019.

Social media

Future Oncology continues to be active across all social media platforms, including our Future Science Oncology Group, hosted on LinkedIn, and our Twitter account, @fsgfon [12,13]. Our regular posts include journal highlights such as newly published content, most impactful articles and the latest oncology news. This year, we have thoroughly

Figure 2. Proportion of authorship demographics for *Future Oncology* in 2019.

enjoyed engaging with oncology professionals across the field using a variety of materials, including infographics, graphical and video abstracts. We welcome readers to connect with us on various forms of social media going into 2020.

Conclusion

We appreciate all feedback from the oncology community regarding the direction of our content such as ‘hot topics’ in the field and trends that you feel should be covered in *Future Oncology*. We welcome unsolicited article proposals and would be delighted to hear from you. In particular, we encourage submissions on novel and translational work such as:

- Precision medicine
- Immunotherapy
- Real-world data
- Big data, AI and emerging technologies
- Integration of diagnostic and therapeutic approaches
- Optimizing treatment sequences
- Profiles of new anticancer drugs
- Biological processes involved in cancer and how new understanding will impact treatment
- Clinical implications and applications for new biomarkers
- Screening programs and methodology
- Impact of molecular genetics on prevention, screening, diagnosis and treatment

We greatly look forward to collaborating with you all over the next year and hope *Future Oncology* continues to fulfill its role in the medical community and grow and develop as a journal.

Financial & competing interests disclosure

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