



## EDITORIAL

# Welcome to *The Hematology Journal*

The launch of *The Hematology Journal* at the beginning of the twenty-first century may well prompt the questions 'Why a new journal in hematology?' and 'Why a new official journal for the European Haematology Association?'

Founded in 1992 the European Haematology Association (EHA) is a young and active organisation. With its membership growing rapidly, its interests embrace the breadth of hematology. After a fruitful joint venture with the *British Journal of Haematology*, the EHA Board of Directors decided to launch its own journal, with the aim of providing a new platform for stimulating the exchange of information in the field. The title has been chosen to emphasise the journal's multidisciplinary scope and to express the ambition to serve as a major reference journal for European hematologists and their colleagues worldwide.

*The Hematology Journal* features basic laboratory and clinical research in all areas of hematology and is positioned as an interactive journal, which will stimulate new discoveries. All disciplines, groups, working parties, subcommittees and societies are welcome to contribute to the journal to achieve a federation of skills in hematology, and to stimulate the cross-fertilisation of research.

As the official journal of the EHA, it is supported by the large group of scientists and clinicians that make up the EHA membership. We hope that the journal will generate considerable interest, as do the annual EHA meetings which continue to attract increasing numbers of participants each year.

In addition to publishing original studies, *The Hematology Journal* carries reports on tools and procedures with original data. Under the heading 'Tools, Libraries and Procedures', these reports may present new cell clones, new cell lines, interesting monoclonal antibodies, animal models and other topics, as well as new nomenclatures or recommendations.

Mini-reviews appear under the heading 'Hematology in Focus' and exchanges of opinions are to be found in the 'Hypothesis and Debate' section. Questions or answers are encouraged as letters to the editor to be included in the section entitled 'Open Forum' which presents readers with the products of lively interactions in the field. A major aim of the journal will be prompt publication, thus ensuring the communication of up-to-date, new information.

The journal will be published in both printed and electronic formats. Information about *The Hematology Journal* is available on the Nature Publishing Group's website ([www.nature.com/thj](http://www.nature.com/thj)) which provides a number of free services, including tables of contents and abstracts, as well as the full text of the contents for subscribers.

We hope that we may welcome our colleagues worldwide as readers, as contributors and, at a later stage, as true fans of *The Hematology Journal*.

Laurent Degos, Paris  
Bob Löwenberg, Rotterdam  
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