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Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology

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Editorial

Editorial: Looking back and forward



As editors-in-chief of Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology (RTP) we would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the journal's progress since we took over more than three years ago.

First of all, we made significant changes to the composition of the editorial board, striving to achieve a good balance between members of regulatory agencies, the private sector and academia. We believe that this has resulted in a noticeable increase in contributions from regulatory agencies, which we sincerely appreciate. These contributions are essential for ensuring balanced content in our journal. In our view, research conducted by the private sector as well as regulatory agencies or academia is equally important to advancing the field of regulatory toxicology and pharmacology; the primary criterion is scientific quality and integrity. Finally, we emphasize that RTP is editorially fully independent from any organization, whether private or regulatory sector.

At the beginning of our editorship, we made a number of changes in our editorial policies. Most noticeably we are following the WHO anti-tobacco policy for articles in the journal and have implemented more rigorous controls on animal use in experiments presented to us in manuscripts. Furthermore, we identified a number of high-priority aspects for publication in RTP in the years to come. These including alternative models for animal testing and the development of AOPs (adverse outcome pathways) that should support regulatory decision making in the years to come. We have published a number of special issues dedicated to specific topics, and look forward to receiving proposals from authors and researchers for more special issues in the future.

We have seen an increasing number of manuscripts from Asia and South America, and are pleased to see that the quality of research in these regions is so strongly improving. We are also seeing an increased number of submitted manuscripts on the safety evaluation of botanical-derived materials, reflecting the importance of their use in non-Western and developing countries. We clearly see Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology as a journal that is open to these types of manuscripts. However, it is critical that such studies provide sufficient chemical characterization of the botanical extracts so that the results can be evaluated and extrapolated beyond the test material.

We are especially grateful to our associate editors – Drs. Diane Benford (former) Angelo Moretto, Chiharu Tohyama (former), Matthieu Valcke, Majorie van Duursen and Daniele Wikoff, for their invaluable contributions to the journal that contribute so much to its present format. In addition, we would like to thank Jagna Mirska-Gent and Saritha Bhawarlal from Elsevier for their ongoing expert support that made our lives as Editors-in-Chief so much easier. And last, but not least, we would like to thank our authors, reviewers and readers of our journal, without whom we could never have achieved the journal's present status with an impact factor greater than 3, placing it firmly in the second quartile of the toxicology field.

We hope that this editorial provides a valuable overview of RTP's goals and objectives and may also be a valuable resource for those considering submitting their work to our journal. We are pleased with the progress that RTP has made since 2020 and are committed to publishing high-quality research that advances the field of regulatory toxicology and pharmacology. We believe that our journal is well-positioned to continue to make significant contributions to these fields in the years to come.

Thank you all so much for your continuing support of our journal.
Sincerely,
The Editors-in-Chief of Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology

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