A star is born: eGastroenterology

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This may sound a bit provocative, being aware of the competition existing within the field; however, the title is to indicate the ambition, enthusiasm and strength within the editorial organisation including many prominent experts to serve you as a submitting author as well as a reader. In front of you is the inaugural issue of eGastroenterology, a new peer-reviewed journal. eGastroenterology is focusing on clinical and basic research in gastroenterology, including hepatology, pancreatology and oesophagology, as well as gastrointestinal surgery and science. To ensure global access to our content, eGastroenterology will be an open access journal: articles in the journal will be freely accessible for anyone to read, download and share without restrictions. Now, we fully understand that some researchers may hesitate to submit to a new journal. Thus, to encourage submission to the journal, we have decided to waive all article processing charges until early 2026. We are exceptionally pleased that eGastroenterology will be published by BMJ Publishing Group. Please join us to move eGastroenterology forward towards excellence in publishing gastroenterology in a wide sense, a goal that cannot be achieved without your support.

In this first issue, we are honoured to have contributions from prominent researchers in the field. In the first article, Professor Frank Tacke and Dr Adrien Guillot provide us with interesting basic science insights into the most recent breakthroughs in the understanding of liver macrophage biology and its roles in liver physiology, in a four-dimensional perspective. The review from the history makers in medicine series by Professor William B Greenough III and his colleagues from Johns Hopkins University discusses the treatment of cholera, one of the most fatal infectious diseases. Professor Greenough shares his personal experience in treating patients with cholera through oral rehydration therapy at the Pakistan Cholera Research Laboratory in the early 1960s.

These papers will soon be followed by four additional reviews. The article by Professor Jun Yu and colleagues from The Chinese University of Hong Kong elaborates on the role of microbiota in bowel inflammation and cancer development. In the review by Dr Luca Maccioni and coworkers from the National Institutes of Health, alcohol-associated bowel disease is discussed extensively for the first time and future studies on this disorder are proposed. Professor Wajahat Mehal from Yale University, in his review, discusses another hot topic regarding liver fibrosis in metabolic syndrome. Professor Fouad Lafdil and Dr Arthur Brouillet, in their review, discuss the importance of characterisation and understanding of the mechanistic processes occurring in the early steps of hepatic carcinogenesis and the role of liver progenitor cells and their transformation into cancer stem cells by chronic hepatic inflammation.

We hope you will appreciate reading these articles, and we sincerely thank all the authors and peer reviewers who have contributed and helped strengthen the papers in this inaugural issue.

A star is born and the light will soon be seen.

Funding The authors have not declared a specific grant for this research from any funding agency in the public, commercial or not-for-profit sectors.

Competing interests None declared.

Patient consent for publication Not required.

Provenance and peer review Commissioned; internally peer reviewed.

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