Message from the editors

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The United European Gastroenterology Journal is now well advanced into its second year of publication. Several of the high-reaching ambitions of the editors and publishing staff have been fulfilled since the start of the journal. As you can judge from this issue, the journal publishes a broad variety of clinically relevant articles, both original research papers and high-level reviews. The scope of the journal is broad in every sense, with multidisciplinary topics and contributions and a truly global authorship. No effort has been spared to provide an attractive article and journal lay-out, and a medical illustrator is available to generate visually appealing graphics for selected articles.

These important achievements early in the life-cycle of the journal have also been acknowledged by authoritative organisations in publishing. First of all, the UEG journal was a winner of the 2013 APEX Award of Excellence in the 'New Magazines & Journals' category. Second, the journal was recently also accepted by PubMed Central, which means it fulfils the required high scientific and technical quality standards.

Based on this achievement, all papers in the UEG journal, from the very first issue onwards, are listed and searchable in PubMed. In addition, all articles are fully and freely accessible in PubMed Central, which guarantees the best exposure for articles published in the UEG journal.

The recognition the UEG journal has received in its early days confirms that there is a need for the quality and scope we are providing, in spite of the rapid increase in the number of scientific journals in our field. We invite you to experience the benefits of UEG

journal first-hand by submitting your research work to our journal. We welcome clinical and human research in gastroenterology in the broad sense, which includes liver disease, biliopancreatic disease, gastrointestinal endoscopy, digestive oncology, gastrointestinal surgery, paediatric gastroenterology, nutrition and primary care aspects of gastrointestinal disease, amongst others. We welcome submissions, not only of original studies but also of meta-analyses, clinical guidelines and reviews. The peer review process is the basis for accepting or rejecting submitted articles. The journal's turn-over time is rapid and competitive, with a mean time to first decision of less than 21 days in 2013, and publication online 20 days after acceptance.

It is clear that the outlook for UEG journal, near the end of its second publication year, is highly favourable. The quality of the publishing team, the editorial board, the associate editors and, last but not least, United European Gastroenterology, are all important factors in this early success. However, our ambitions for the near future remain high. We will strive to improve the speed and quality of the decision-making process for submitted articles. We also plan a number of innovative publication topics for the coming year, so subscribe to our table of contents if you don't want to miss any of this. Finally, we count on both clinical and basic scientists in our field to submit some of their best work to our journal.

We hope you enjoy this October 2014 issue of the UEG journal.

Jan Tack, Tim Greten, Arthur Kaser and Oliver Pech.