

Dear friends and colleagues,

I am greatly honoured to be appointed a new Editor-in-Chief of *Kardiologia Polska* (*Kardiol Pol*) for the years 2018–2019. I appreciate the decision and courage of the authorities of the Polish Cardiac Society. In January of this year, a new team of associate editors — Professor Katarzyna Stolarz-Skrzypek, Professor Maciej Lesiak, Professor Maciej Sterliński, and Professor Grzegorz Gajos — will assume leadership of *Kardiol Pol*. We follow in the footsteps of previous editors (Professor Piotr Kułakowski, and Professor Krzysztof J. Filipiak) and all eminent cardiologists who have established and fostered our journal over the last 60 years.

On behalf of all my team I promise to work hard to improve the standing of *Kardiol Pol*.

Based on opinions and comments presented by several Polish cardiologists and readers of our journal I have prepared a plan for my two-year term. My aim is to promote the best Polish clinical science in cardiology and to keep excellence in research as the only criterion for accepting a paper.

On 1 January 2018, the updated Instructions to Authors will be launched (see our website for details). Major goals and the subsequent changes are as follows:

1. To make the journal's editorial processing times more competitive by shortening the average time from submission to the first editorial decision to 25 days, and from submission to the final decision, including revision, to 75 days, with the time for an individual article to appear online of 3–5 working days after acceptance.
2. To publish Short Communications, a variant of Letters-to-the Editor (up to 1500 words) to share preliminary reports or case series with their publication within four weeks, without compromising our quality standards.
3. To publish editorials solicited by the editors in order to comment on the papers in the current issue of the journal and increase our visibility in the scientific community.
4. To introduce one unstructured paragraph for non-specialists in the field, outlining the key novel findings with their potential relevance to clinical practice or mechanisms of cardiovascular diseases, which will accompany all original articles.
5. To increase the number of invited reviews prepared by top-rank scientists on contemporary topics representing recent developments in cardiology.
6. To implement a professional antiplagiarism tool, iThenticate, and use it before starting the reviewing process.

Given the large number of original papers and other manuscripts accepted for publication in 2017, the first three issues from January to March 2018 will be enlarged because my intention is that the above new initiatives will be seen by our readers in the April issue of *Kardiol Pol*.

I believe that the community of Polish cardiologists will continue to consider *Kardiol Pol* as a prime forum to present their translational and clinical research in a broad spectrum of cardiovascular diseases. With growing support of all researchers in Poland and other countries, I am confident of the continued success of *Kardiol Pol* in the years to come. My aim is an Impact Factor of 2.5 by the year 2021. Polish cardiology deserves it and can make it.

I sincerely hope that you enjoy reading the diverse papers offered in the coming issues of *Kardiol Pol*. To achieve this, we cordially invite you to submit your manuscripts to us, and our duty will be to provide a rapid high-standard peer review. I encourage all our readers and supporters to share their opinions and constructive criticisms with the editors (things you like and those you do not like and feel can be improved) and suggest improvements using our email address and social media. The interesting views and ideas will be published in the Letters-to-the Editor section. *Kardiol Pol* is our journal, yours and mine; we all should and can actively contribute to its final version.

A happy New Year 2018 to all our readers, authors, referees, members of the Scientific Board, our entire editorial staff, our publisher, Via Medica, and all cardiologists.



Professor Anetta Undas



Anetta Undas

Anetta Undas graduated from the Medical Academy in Cracow in 1990. She was awarded a PhD (1996). She became assistant professor in 2001 and full professor in 2007. She was a Polish Fulbright scholar program grantee at the Department of Biochemistry University of Vermont (1999–2000).

Now she is head of the Department of Experimental Cardiac Surgery, Anaesthesiology, and Cardiology at the Institute of Cardiology and the Evidence-Based Medicine Unit at the Jagiellonian University Medical College in Cracow, Poland. She runs the Centre for Innovative Laboratory Diagnostics and in 2013 she was appointed Director of the Centre for Research and Innovative Technology at the John Paul II Hospital in Cracow, Poland. She collaborates with scientific centres in Europe (University of Geneva, University of Murcia, University of Leeds) and the United States (University of Vermont).

Her research interests include genetic and environmental regulation of blood coagulation and atherosclerosis, including the pathophysiology of myocardial infarction, stroke, and venous thromboembolism. She identified a new risk factor for arterial and venous thromboembolic events, i.e. prothrombotic fibrin clot properties. She has explored the effect of various medications, including cholesterol-lowering agents, anticoagulants, and antiaggregatory drugs.

She has published 400 peer-reviewed papers indexed in the Medline database, including first authored and senior authored papers in *Lancet*, *Circulation*, *Blood*, *Stroke*, *Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol*, *J Biol Chem*, *J Thromb Haemost*. Her h-index is 38. She serves as editor-in-chief of *Pol Arch Intern Med* (*Pol Arch Med Wewn*).

She was awarded two Committee of Scientific Research grants and two OPUS grants of the National Centre of Science. She supervised 17 doctoral dissertations in medicine.

She was appointed the associate member of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences (PAU) and the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN). She is a member of the Council of the National Centre of Science. She is a panel member in the European Research Council grant reviewing process.

She was awarded several prizes for scientific achievements, including the Prime Minister Award in 2007 and 2015, the Jędrzej Sniadacki Award of the Polish Academy of Sciences in 2012, the “Laur Jagielloński” — the Jagiellonian University Rector Award in 2015, the Ministry of Science and Higher Education Award in 2017, and the Award of the President of the Polish Academy of Sciences in 2017.