



Editorial

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Dear Colleagues,

I wish you a Happy New Year from the *Journal of Planar Chromatography (JPC)* and welcome you all to the first issue of 2020. *JPC* was founded in 1988, and the first issue was launched in February 1988. We can look back on 32 years of successful publishing.

Since 1988, *JPC* has launched six issues per year, and is starting this year with issue 1/2020 (January–February). If you compare the present issue with an issue from last year, you will notice the new look and layout. This is because, from 2020 on, the *Journal of Planar Chromatography* will be co-published by Springer. I expect that the co-publishing agreement between Akadémiai Kiadó and Springer will significantly increase the visibility and accessibility of the journal, because all of the journal content will now be available on the SpringerLink platform, for which many institutions have subscriptions.

The primary objective of *JPC* is high-performance thin-layer chromatography (HPTLC), a method which is strong in the field of pharmaceutical and environmental analysis as well as in plant and food analysis. The method is also best suited for a purity check of standard substances and is the only one which can easily use biological detection systems for effect-directed analysis. Over the last year, the editors of *JPC* have had intensive discussions regarding the future objectives of *JPC*, and decided to open the journal to electrophoretic separations. For this we plan to change the title from “Journal of Planar Chromatography” to “Journal of Planar Separations”.

The present issue contains 11 articles written by leading scientists in the field of planar chromatography. The issue

comprises a variety of topics ranging from botanical fingerprint analysis over quantification of pharmaceuticals to a direct bioautography assay for qualitative and quantitative analysis.

I want to thank all the authors who have contributed to this issue of *JPC*, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all editors for fruitful discussions and all scientists and members of our international advisory board for taking over review duties. Special thanks go to Ágnes Kakuk, Nikoletta Schalbert and Balázs Réffy, who gave me valuable support from the publishing side.

Bernd Spangenberg
Editor-in-Chief

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