

F O R E W O R D

Foreword



The 16th World Congress on Public Health, to be held in Italy in 2020, will be a memorable event that deserves to be promoted and organized in the best possible way. For this reason the Publisher accepted our suggestion to promote two special issues of *ACTA BIOMEDICA*, also to implement the new section of the Journal dedicated to Public Health and Health Policies.

The aim of this initiative was to collect high-quality scientific contributions on various Public Health topics, with particular regard to Rome Congress' main theme: "PUBLIC HEALTH FOR THE FUTURE OF HUMANITY: ANALYSIS, ADVOCACY AND ACTION". In particular, we called upon our colleagues involved in the most significant scientific Public Health events of 2019, such as the ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreat, which took place last May 2019 in Erice and the 12th European Public Health Conference 20-23 November 2019 in Marseille.

The present issue - the first of the two - includes 10 full papers and 4 short articles (Focus on) devoted to various areas of Public Health: the prevention of infectious diseases, the risk management, the health or-

ganization, the Public Health workforces. The multiplicity of the authors and of the academic institutions involved and the scientific validity of the contents, make this issue an important scientific testimony of the vivacity of our discipline and of our researchers, among them many brilliant, young health professionals.

At the end we take the opportunity to thank the members of the Board, the Editorial Office and the Publisher who have followed the different phases of this editorial work. A particular thank to Valeria Ceci from Mattioli and to Deanna Rossi and Assunta Bizzarro - two young PH professionals - who contributed with their precise collaboration to the success of the editorial initiative.

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