Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the first issue of the *Circulation Journal* in 2023. Since last year, some important enhancements, such as shortening the time for review of submitted manuscripts and reducing the publication fee for original articles by half, have been made. By such changes, the average processing time from submission to online publication is now 52 days, which is 6 days shorter than in 2021, and the number of submitted manuscripts is tending to increase from all over the world. My hope is that more investigators will select the *Circulation Journal* for publishing their research. In addition, the 2nd joint symposium between the *European Heart Journal* and the *Circulation Journal* was held during the annual meeting of the Japanese Circulation Society (JCS) in 2022. The theme of the symposium was “Heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF)”. In that session, Professor Filippo Crea, who is the Editor-in-Chief of the *European Heart Journal*, kindly chaired the special lecture given by Professor Rudolf De Boer from University Medical Center Groningen, entitled “Diagnostic algorithms of HFpEF: biomarkers and beyond”. From JCS, Dr. Atsushi Kyodo and Dr. Shungo Hikoso presented their most recent interesting research findings regarding phenotyping and risk stratification of HFpEF in Japan. Because such a joint symposium is extremely attractive and meaningful for discussing cutting-edge research and the future perspectives of cardiovascular medicine, we plan to hold it in 2023, the theme being “Battling with subclinical atrial fibrillation: pathophysiology and early detection”. The *Circulation Journal* will continue to its role in promoting communication with overseas academic societies. Furthermore, the editorial team is always striving to maintain and further enhance the scientific quality of the Journal to ensure it is recognized as a leading international medical journal. Finally, my personal appreciation of the great contributions from all authors submitting their valuable manuscripts to the Journal, and of the reviewers and editorial team for their dedicated efforts.

Toshihisa Anzai, MD, PhD

Editor-in-Chief

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