



Dear Readers of the Atlas of Genetics and Cytogenetics in Oncology and Haematology,

The Atlas is an on-line peer-reviewed freely accessible scientific encyclopedia and database that provides a compendium of the cytogenetics and genetics of specific cancers and germline disorders that predispose to cancer. Since its inception, the Atlas has served as a valuable, comprehensive reference that continues to be consulted each day by technicians, students, fellows and physicians across the world. A measure of its success is that thousands of users throughout the years have accessed to the Atlas. We are all immensely grateful to Dr. Jean-Loup Huret who initiated, created, developed, and produced the Atlas with the help of Dr. Philippe Dessen, who built the database that has contributed to its further development. Their importance to the success of the Atlas cannot be overstated.

The fields of genetics and oncology have evolved greatly since the beginning of the Atlas and we are ready for the challenge ahead and determined to keep the legacy of Atlas going. To this end, we have relocated the Atlas to a new home at the Biomedicine Institute of Salamanca (University of Salamanca, Spain). During this challenging period in the transitioning, we have focused on:

1. Building-up a new website with links to other useful on-line resources, in order to help the users tackle questions arising in their pursuit of knowledge.
2. Revising all contents in the Atlas, allowing us to catalogue what is timeless and worthy of saving, what we need to update, and what is missing, including completely new topics.
3. Organizing genetic markers according to the WHO classifications of malignancies, based on the strong marriage between genetic markers and pathologic findings.
4. Simplifying the submission and updating process.
5. Developing a new set of teaching tools with different levels of sophistication in multiple languages.
6. Expanding the interaction among readers, such as "Case Reports", "Ask the expert", in different languages.
7. Using social networking to make connections and dispense information.

During this transitional period, we were fortunate to interact with a group of enthusiastic investigators in Salamanca. They were instrumental in suggesting and bringing forth some of the improvements cited above that will increase the impact of the Atlas.

As part of our preparations for this next edition of the Atlas, we appointed Ana Rodriguez PhD as Coordinator, Teresa González PhD to oversee hematological malignancies, Juan Luis García PhD to oversee solid tumors, and Jonny Matias to handle informatics. We are still in the process of finalizing the Associate Editors (e.g., Aurelia Meloni-Erhing, PhD, and Sheng Xiao, MD) and the members of Editorial Board. We will need and welcome the input of cancer geneticists, hematologists, pathologists and oncologists at each step of the way as we move forward.

By keeping the Atlas alive during these challenging times, we are preserving the important legacy of cancer cytogenetics and the memory of colleagues who have contributed enthusiastically in the past but are with us no more.

We are greatly honored to be leading this new venture and look forward to many fruitful interactions with current colleagues, contributors, and users.



Prof. Paola Dal Cin PhD



Prof. Jesús M Hernández MD PhD



Jean Loup Huret