

Dear Colleagues,

We begin this issue with the 2021 Best Paper Awards and congratulate Vinita Rangroo Thrane, Alexander Thrane, Leif Hynnekleiv, Hans Olav Ueland, and Atle Einar Østern. We would like to thank our evaluation committee, comprised of representatives from each of the Nordic countries as well as Harvard Medical School.

The Editorial Board would also like to congratulate Yousif Subhi, a young Danish eye doctor honored with three prestigious awards in 2021.

This year, the Editorial Board is pleased to launch *Ophthalmology's* Portrait of Excellence. In this series, we will highlight some of the exceptional achievements of our colleagues in eye care, research, innovation, and leadership within the Nordic region and beyond. We are honored to kick off this series with Sten Kjellström, the new CEO of St. Erik's Eye Hospital.

In this issue, you can read the highlights from five recent Nordic dissertations. As last year, there will be three Outstanding PhD awards (gold, silver, and bronze), totaling NOK 125,000. The recipients will be presented in the upcoming December issue. All dissertations defended in the Nordic region between January 1 and December 31, 2021, are eligible for nomination for the 2021 Outstanding PhD awards. *Ophthalmology* is hoping to receive many nominations from our readers by October 1, 2022.

We are excited to bring you the latest news from the Nordic Congress of Ophthalmology 2022, including some thrilling opportunities Iceland has to offer. A most exciting scientific program with several outstanding speakers is outlined. Finally, we present thought-provoking discussion on decision making as well as principles and opportunities of network meta-analysis in clinical ophthalmology.

Special thanks to Professor Jakob Grauslund for his great work as the Guest Editor for our Special Issue on diabetic retinopathy. Here, you can read more about the highlights from The European Association for the Study of Diabetes Eye Complications (EASDec) 2021 conference, dive deeper into some featured work, and read more about two authors recognized at the conference: Hanagh Winter and Lasse Jørgensen Cehofski.

The Editorial Board wishes you all a happy summer and hopes to see many of you at the Nordic Congress of Ophthalmology 2022 in Reykjavík.



Tor P. Utheim

Tor Paaske Utheim
Editor-in-Chief



www.ofthalmolog.com

MANUSCRIPTS:

Manuscripts can be sent to info@ofthalmolog.com. For guidelines about manuscripts, deadlines, and distribution, visit www.ofthalmolog.com

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COVER:

For this cover, we were inspired by the natural beauty of Iceland. We wanted to create an image in the style of a vintage travel poster to excite readers about the upcoming conference in preparation for their trip. The proximity of the breathtaking vistas to the urban capital is exemplified by the two people casually strolling along the beach. We hope that the cover helps you picture yourself here and that the conference will be the beginning of a wonderful summer.

We want to thank the illustrator, Agnes Guttormsgaard, for her work on both covers. If you want to see more great landscape art and to learn more about the illustrator, follow @agnesguttormsgaard on Instagram.

