EDITORIAL Snježana Čukljek EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



I am honoured to present the first issue of the *Croatian Nursing Journal* on behalf of the Editorial Board. The *Croatian Nursing Journal* is a peer-reviewed nursing journal that publishes original articles with the aim of advancing and exchanging knowledge and experience, and also enables readers to be informed about contemporary professional and research trends in the field of nursing and other health sciences. The Journal is primarily intended for nurses, but also all members of an interdisciplinary team. It enables the exchange of professional and scientific knowledge to improve patient health care as well as to encourage further development of the nursing profession.

The need for launching a scientific and professional nursing journal has long been recognized, and the realization was initiated by Krešimir Rotim, PhD, Dean of the University of Applied Health Sciences and the president of the Croatian Nursing Council, Mrs. Slava Šepec. The establishment of the Journal was also supported by the Governing and Expert Councils of the University of Applied Health Sciences and the Executive Board of the Croatian Nursing Council. I hereby thank them for their trust, support, advice and overall assistance.

The establishment of the Journal was a great challenge, but the experience, knowledge and co-operation of the deputy editor-in-chief, Editorial Board and assistant editors significantly facilitated the work and contributed to the quality of this project.

I wish to thank everyone who contributed to the establishment and publishing of the first issue: the deputy editor-in-chief, Editorial Board and Editorial Council, assistant editors, reviewers and technical editors. I also want to thank the authors who placed

their trust in us and delivered their papers to make this first issue possible.

Furthermore, I wish to thank all the others who shared news on the establishment of the Journal, enabled us to present the *Croatian Nursing Journal* and encouraged their colleagues to publish their articles. I believe this is the first in a series of issues of our Journal and that these are just some of many articles we will be able to read and quote in the future, which we will discuss, and which will encourage us to conduct further professional and scientific research.

I hereby invite you to collaborate, get involved in the Journal by submitting your papers for publication, and stay up-to-date with the published articles.