

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Rafael Latorre, DVM,
PhD**

Dear Friends and Plastinators:

It is with great pleasure that I present to you Volume 30, Issue 1, of the *Journal of Plastination*. I would like to thank the reviewers for taking their time to review the manuscripts.

In this issue, we present remarkable papers. The first paper from Dr. Bittencourt is about the viscosity of different silicones for plastination, and the importance of considering their physicochemical characteristics and dynamic viscosity, before choosing the ideal silicone for our particular needs. The second study is about deplastination for histology studies, from Dr. Moema Lopes Ramos. It presents a very interesting result: that it is possible to produce histological sections directly from plastinated specimens, without previous deplastination, at least in the three tissues tested. The third paper, presented by Dr. Rocha, describes a new protocol for tissue preservation, focused on surgical training applications. The fourth paper of this issue is a very concise work presented by Dr. Sui, about the specific effects of bleaching before plastination on the final appearance of the specimens. The last paper, about General Issues of Safety in Plastination, by Mr. Volker Schill, is a very important paper for all of us. We all are worry if we do not have a proper vacuum pump or a good impregnation chamber for instance, however, we are not always alert about how to work in a healthy ambience in our plastination lab. This paper helps us to be aware of the potential hazards of the chemicals that we are working with every single day.

I would like to welcome all new members of the International Society for Plastination (ISP) and to invite all of you to participate in the Journal of Plastination. Please, share with us your results, and your expertise in plastination and other anatomical techniques.

With best regards from Murcia, Spain

Rafael Latorre
President