

## MESSAGE FROM THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



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On behalf of  
the Organizing  
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# Celebrating Luso-Galician and Iberian Collaboration in the History of Medicine

It is with great satisfaction that we present this Special Issue of the *Jornal da Sociedade das Ciências Médicas de Lisboa*, dedicated to the 2nd Luso-Galician Congress on the History of Medicine, held in Porto in November 2025.

This congress brought together scholars, clinicians, historians, and students from Portugal and Galicia in a shared commitment to the study and dissemination of the History of Medicine. Beyond its scientific programme, the meeting reaffirmed the importance of sustained dialogue between neighbouring academic communities that share historical, cultural, and intellectual traditions. The Luso-Galician dimension of this initiative reflects not only geographical proximity but also a long-standing exchange of medical knowledge and humanistic thought.

At a time when medical science advances at an unprecedented pace, the historical perspective remains essential. Revisiting the works, debates, and achievements of past physicians allows us to better understand the foundations of contemporary practice and to cultivate critical judgement. As António Nunes Ribeiro Sanches emphasized in the eighteenth century, the education of physicians requires familiarity with the literature and history of their discipline, for only through such knowledge can they become truly learned professionals rather than mere technical practitioners. This conviction continues to guide initiatives such as the present congress.

The contributions gathered in this Special Issue – lectures, communications, and posters – reflect the diversity of approaches that characterize the field today, ranging from biographical and institutional studies to reflections on medical humanism and heritage. Together, they testify to the vitality of historical research in medicine and to its relevance within contemporary academic life.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I express my sincere gratitude to all speakers, authors, reviewers, and collaborators who made both the congress and this publication possible. May this volume contribute to strengthening scholarly ties and to fostering continued interest in the History of Medicine as a field that enriches our understanding of science, society, and the medical profession.

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President of the Organizing Committee