
EDITORIAL

A year of growth: celebrating legacy and embracing new horizons

Janaka Akarawita¹, Kanchana Mallawaarachchi¹

¹Sri Lanka College of Dermatology and Aesthetic Medicine.

Correspondence: Janaka Akarawita, akarawita@hotmail.com

It is with great pleasure that we present the current issue of the *Sri Lanka Journal of Dermatology*. As editors, we greatly appreciate the continued enthusiasm and scholarly contributions of dermatologists, researchers, and clinicians who support the advancement of dermatological knowledge in Sri Lanka and beyond.

The past year has been a significant one for the dermatology community in Sri Lanka. The Sri Lanka College of Dermatology and Aesthetic Medicine successfully conducted the Second International Conference on Tropical Dermatology in March 2026, attracting nearly 450 participants, including 325 international delegates, despite regional geopolitical challenges affecting international travel. The conference provided an important platform for academic exchange, professional collaboration, and discussions on emerging developments in tropical dermatology. The enthusiasm and scientific engagement demonstrated during the conference reflect the growing strength and global connectivity of dermatology in Sri Lanka.

In addition, the year 2025 marked a historic milestone for the Sri Lanka College of Dermatology and Aesthetic Medicine as the College commemorated forty years of service to dermatology in Sri Lanka. This landmark achievement was celebrated with the event “Derma 40 Bash: Learning from Legends,” which brought together past presidents, senior dermatologists, trainees, and members of the dermatology fraternity in a spirit of fellowship and reflection. The event celebrated the remarkable journey of the College over four decades, recognizing its contributions toward postgraduate training, continuing medical education, research, public awareness, and the advancement of dermatological care in Sri Lanka.

Another important milestone in the progress of our journal has been the adoption of the Sri Lanka Journals Online (SLJOL) platform for the management of our editorial and peer review processes, now successfully in its second year. SLJOL, currently managed by the National Science Foundation under the Ministry of Technology and Research, serves as a comprehensive database of journals published in Sri Lanka and aims to enhance the visibility and accessibility of local scholarly publications and the research they conduct. The SLJOL platform utilizes the Open Journal Systems (OJS) framework and is hosted by Ubiquity Press. Through this portal, participating journals benefit from online hosting, improved discoverability, and streamlined editorial workflows, including manuscript handling, peer review coordination, and publication processes.

With this year's issue, we have fully conducted the article submission, peer review, and publication process through the SLJOL platform. In addition, all previous issues of the journal have now been uploaded and archived on the platform, allowing readers and researchers open access to the complete collection of past publications. We are pleased that these valuable contributions are now more readily accessible to the wider scientific community. This shift promotes transparency, efficiency, accessibility, and alignment with international publishing standards, benefiting authors, reviewers, editors, and readers alike.

We take this opportunity to sincerely thank all authors, reviewers, editorial board members, the council, and members of the Sri Lanka College of Dermatology and Aesthetic Medicine for their continued support and commitment to maintaining the academic quality and integrity of the journal.

We hope this issue continues to serve as a valuable educational and scientific resource for clinicians and researchers in dermatology.

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