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EDITORIAL

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Foreword

Dear academic community,

It is my great pleasure to present to you Special Issue 3, Volume 74, 2025 of the *Proceedings of the Estonian Academy of Sciences*.

As health care continues to evolve at an unprecedented pace, it is crucial that we stay ahead of emerging challenges while embracing innovative solutions. In this special edition, we present a collection of research that explores the transformative ideas and practices shaping the future of healthcare education, patient care, and public safety. With each contribution, we delve into the complexities of healthcare systems, uncovering the insights that will drive progress, inspire change, and ultimately improve the lives of both healthcare professionals and the patients they serve.

This special edition presents a collection of research that addresses critical themes shaping the future of health care. The contributions gathered here highlight the dynamic intersection of healthcare education, public safety, and historical health practices. From the integration of standardised nursing language (NNN) to exploring the ethical challenges of digital learning, and from preparing nursing students for a tech-driven healthcare environment to enhancing first responder skills in high-risk situations, this edition covers a wide array of pressing topics.

These studies reflect the diversity, complexity, and humanity at the heart of health care. They push us to rethink traditional approaches in patient counselling, academic instruction, and chronic disease management, advocating for inclusive, ethical, and evidence-informed practices across all areas of health care. The insights shared here challenge us to embrace innovative, interdisciplinary approaches that inspire progress, not only for healthcare professionals but for the patients they serve.

On behalf of the Scientific Committee and the Editorial Board, I extend my deep gratitude to the researchers, educators, and practitioners whose work has contributed to this edition. We hope it serves as a source of inspiration and reflection for all those invested in the future of health care.

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