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Dear colleagues and friends,

When The BRICS Health Journal was launched in 2024, our mission was clear and ambitious: to establish a unified, borderless information space for the medical and scientific communities of Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa and the newly joined BRICS countries. One year on, we can confidently say that this vision is beginning to take shape.

The conceptual and structural foundation of the publication was established in the inaugural issue of The BRICS Health Journal (2024), in which comprehensive analytical reviews of the main directions of healthcare development in BRICS countries were presented. Subsequent issues furthered the discussion of innovation in technological, legal and institutional fields. This reflects the BRICS' efforts to integrate science, policy and healthcare, expanding the journal's scope to include progress in artificial intelligence, pharmacology and population health.

Over the past year, it has brought together authors from BRICS+ countries, representing ministries of health, leading universities and national academies of science. The BRICS Health Journal is a joint project with Sechenov University. This partnership ensures that the journal adheres to the highest international publishing standards,

thereby guaranteeing that each publication is accessible and visible on a global scale.

In 2025, Brazil officially takes the helm of BRICS, providing an opportunity to present this special issue dedicated to the joint progress of Brazil and partners from BRICS. This special issue is a new initiative that is aligned with the core principles of the BRICS framework: cooperation, innovation and a shared commitment to rethinking global health and fostering collective progress. We will continue to develop the initiative of an annual special issue dedicated to the BRICS chair country, and we look forward to receiving support for this initiative from all BRICS member states.

Editor-in-Chief
Minister of Health of the Russian Federation

Mikhail A. Murashko