

Foreword to Biophotonics Technologies (dedicated to the memory of Dr. Alexey N. Bashkatov)

Dear Colleagues,

This special issue is dedicated to a brilliant scientist Associate Professor of the Department of Optics and Biophotonics of Saratov State University, **Dr. Alexey N. Bashkatov**. Regretfully, because of his sudden demise, Alexey is no longer amongst us.

Biophotonics community suffered a heavy loss. His scientific interests included diverse scientific fields as theoretical and experimental research in the optics of biological tissues, biological and medical physics, biophotonics, biomedical optics, and control of optical parameters of biological tissues, etc. His publications are well known all over the world. One of them on the optical properties of tissues is included in the list of the 50 best publications of the entire Journal of Physics (IOP) series for 50 years of its existence and has been cited more than 1600 times. His papers were also included into J. Nano Research Top Papers (2016) and most cited papers of J. Innovative Optical Health Sciences. He has a great publication impact as co-author of 16 book chapters, more than 350 articles in peer-review journals and full texts conference reports, and 12 patents in the field of biophotonics. He has about 5,000 citations and an h-index of 32 (Scopus, March 2022).

Dr. Bashkatov had many students and followers in Russia, China, Portugal, the United States, and other countries, whom he willingly helped to master the complex problems of tissue optics. He devoted his time to doing a great job for the biophotonics community as a guest editor of dozens of journals and reviewed numerous articles from leading journals, trying to instill in the authors a culture of presenting scientific results. His professionalism and devotion to science was recognized with inclusion in the editorial board of the **J. Biomedical Photonics & Engineering**. **Dr. Bashkatov** has made a great contribution to the development of the J-BPE since its foundation in 2014, participating as an author, special editor of several issues of and co-editor of special sections related to tissue optics and spectroscopy.

Alexey has always been open to cooperation. Among his co-authors were specialists in the field of ophthalmology, gastroenterology, dentistry, and oncology.

We will always remember **Alexey** as a wise, kind, cheerful and decent person. All authors would like to express deepest condolences and sincere support to his relatives, friends, and colleagues!

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