

## EDITORIAL BY THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

### Dear Readers

In the current issue of the journal, I recommend reading the article authored by Dr Nikodem Horst, presenting the case of a patient with extensive obstetric sphincter injury. In his summary, the author suggests extending the existing classification system for obstetric perineal injuries proposed by Sultan, as it does not encompass all possible injury types, such as the extensive trauma resulting from childbirth observed in the reported patient. The insights from Dr Horst, who is both a surgeon and gynaecologist, hold particular value in addressing the interdisciplinary nature of obstetric sphincter injuries. Regrettably, there are no medical centres in Poland that offer comprehensive care – encompassing both surgical and rehabilitation support – to patients with postpartum sphincter defects.

The new issue of the journal also includes an article about postoperative care for patients following proctological procedures. The author, Dr Agnieszka Białas, discusses both the principles and significance of postoperative care, while also highlighting the latest recommendations in this domain. The publication has a practical focus, and its value is enhanced by the scarcity of available studies on this topic.

Also recommended is the article by Dr Szymon Głowacki, detailing the therapeutic challenges associated with the management of a patient with anal fissure.

Last but not least, I offer my personal observations on the evaluation of patient eligibility for proctological surgery. I have developed a set of seven questions that physicians should ask themselves and their patients during eligibility assessment for surgical treatment. In a case from my own practice, my imprudent judgement unfortunately led to the patient's dissatisfaction despite a technically well-executed procedure and successful healing.



*I trust that you will find the content in this issue of the journal engaging to read*  
Editor-in-Chief Professor Małgorzata Kołodziejczak, MD