## Welcome Message

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the PTCOG Executive Committee and the Local Organizing Committee, it is my great pleasure to invite you to Buenos Aires, Argentina, for the 63rd Annual Conference of the Particle Therapy Cooperative Group (PTCOG 63), taking place from 2-7 June 2025. This is a particularly special event as it marks the first time PTCOG organizes the Annual Conference in South America. It will be hosted in Argentina, and we are thrilled to be here during a pivotal moment for the region with the opening of Argentina's first Proton Therapy Centre.

Buenos Aires, a vibrant city known for its rich culture, will serve as the perfect backdrop for our conference. As we gather to share the latest advancements and foster new collaborations in particle therapy, we hope this meeting will inspire and impact the growth of particle therapy in Latin America. We highly encourage the participation of colleagues from across Central and South America at PTCOG 63, where we will have dedicated sessions in Spanish, overcoming language barriers and promoting successful interaction between peers from the Latin American countries. This will provide an important opportunity for participants from the region to engage more deeply, access global knowledge, strengthen regional cooperation, and contribute to the broader exchange of expertise in particle therapy.

PTCOG 63 will begin with two days of educational sessions, followed by three days of multi-session scientific presentations and discussions, featuring topics across clinics, physics, and biology. Our theme, "Bridging Borders in Particle Therapy," emphasizes the importance of expanding access and collaboration in our field, especially for developing countries. We anticipate a robust scientific program filled with plenary talks, round tables, and active involvement from our 16 Sub-Committees, including our growing Scholar-in-Training (SIT) Sub-Committee, which continues to encourage the participation of younger generations in PTCOG leadership.

As PTCOG continues to expand, now with over 4,000 members and more than 100 facilities represented in our Steering Committee, we look forward to exploring new avenues of research, including discussions on funding for small research projects and updates on the International Journal of Particle Therapy.

We look forward to your participation in PTCOG 63 and to creating unforgettable memories in Buenos Aires. This will not only be an exceptional scientific experience but also an opportunity to immerse yourself in the unique spirit and hospitality of Argentina.

We can't wait to welcome you to Buenos Aires!

Marco Durante PTCOG President

Martin Jermann PTCOG Secretary

**Gustavo A. Santa Cruz** Local Organizing Committee (LOC)