

Editorial



I encourage you all to hurry and register to participate in the World Allergy Organization International Scientific Congress (WISC 2012) that will be held in Hyderabad - India, on December 6-9, 2012. There is still a chance for reduced registration. You will find information about and a link to this congress website (<http://www.worldallergy.org/wisc2012/>) on our home page (<http://www.espai-eg.org>). It is a unique event that will gather many pioneers and experts in allergy and clinical immunology from all over the world. Do not miss this opportunity.

Please get the latest updates on ESPAI meetings and activities from <http://www.espai-eg.org/scientific.htm>. Our 10th International Congress will be held on Feb 13-14, 2013 in Cairo Sonesta Hotel, Heliopolis. It's a pleasure to announce that Prof Tari Hahteela, Prof of Allergy at Helsinki University, Finland, will be among our distinguished international speakers. The preliminary program and list of international and local speakers will be soon on our website.

This issue of the Egyptian Journal of Pediatric Allergy and Immunology contains many state of the art articles. The review article is about Allergen-specific immunotherapy in children. It is tailed by some MCQs for self-assessment. Seven original articles were carefully selected after peer-review by International and local experts in the field. Real-Time PCR in the early detection of invasive fungal infection in immunodeficient infants and children is the title of the first article which really gives important recommendations on the use of PCR in this challenging clinical condition. The second article is about the value of serum anti-mutated citrullinated vimentin antibodies (anti-MCV) in diagnosing and monitoring cases of juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. In the third article, the authors sought to investigate the effects of β 2-adrenergic receptor polymorphisms on asthma severity and response to salbutamol. The relation between Vitamin D supplementation and the risk of infections in full term infants is the subject of the fourth article. The fifth article evaluates the role of allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis in the pathogenesis of bronchial asthma in children. Vitamin D and the antimicrobial peptide in pediatric asthma is discussed in the sixth article and the last article investigates the epidemiology of bronchial asthma among preparatory school children in the Assiut Governorate.

An English/Arabic glossary that contains a list of allergy and immunology relevant terms and expressions is included as well as a collection of abstracts from recent international publications in allergy/immunology. Do not forget to have a glance at the list of forthcoming allergy/immunology meetings in our calendar of events. I would like also to remind you that the WAO e-letter (News & Notes) is displayed on our website both in English and Arabic on monthly basis. You will find reviews of recent international publications as well as Arabic translation of the WAO president's message. A link on our homepage will guide you to the WAO online journal (World Allergy Org J) and you can sign up to get the journal monthly alerts for free (<http://www.editorialmanager.com/waojournal/>). I encourage you indeed to submit your articles to this very well peer-reviewed journal.

We look forward to receiving some feedback from you on journal@espai-eg.org.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Y. EL GAMAL', with a horizontal line underneath.

Yehia El-Gamal
Editor-in-Chief.