Introduction

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This supplement of *Hormone Research* is devoted to the proceedings of the Lilly 10th International Symposium on Endocrinology and Development, held in Venice on 1-4 October, 1992. The underlying concept of this symposium was to give the community of pediatric endocrinologists a current review on advanced basic research aspects and issues of relevance in the clinical management of children with disturbances of growth and development.

To best accomplish this, an interdisciplinary approach was used, with basic and clinical scientists from different areas of research participating in one symposium. This combined approach proved to be very stimulating and well-accepted by all participants – speakers as well as attending pediatric endocrinologists.

Certainly, this was the case with the Venice meeting at which general as well as specific health aspects of developing children were discussed by human biologists, auxologists, psychiatrists, pediatric and adult endocrinologists and diabetologists. The proceedings of the meeting provide state-of-the-art reviews on the use of anthropometry in childhood as well as valuable basic and clinical information on two entities – obesity and insulin action – which may significantly affect the health status in adult life. We are confident that these contributions will be as stimulating to the reader as they were to the audience of the meeting.