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Preface

This issue of *Kidney and Blood Pressure Research* contains the proceedings of the 'Kongress für Nephrologie 1998' which is to be held on September 19–22, 1998, in Erlangen, Germany. This nephrology congress is the annual scientific meeting of the Gesellschaft für Nephrologie in conjunction with the Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Klinische Nephrologie. The issue includes the extended abstracts of invited lectures as well as all abstracts of free communications and posters. Thus, it covers new scientific results obtained in all fields of clinical research relevant to the kidney and blood pressure, i.e. basic research, disease-oriented research as well as patient-oriented research and clinical studies. In addition, several papers provide concise reviews of clinical knowledge in renal medicine.

The editors want to thank all the authors for their contributions. We hope that this issue will serve the participants as a guide through the congress. In addition, we expect that it will allow those who are not able to attend the meeting to share in the new scientific information presented by the authors.