Editorial

The first issue of the year seems an opportune moment to pass on my best wishes for the New Year and to inform our readers and colleagues about new projects to come.

Although the impact factor system has its critics, it is important for the evaluation of any journal. According to this system, paediatric journals, when compared to adult journals, have a lower impact factor. Nevertheless, the Associate Editors and myself feel it important to reinforce the paediatric nature of *Hormone Research* and to change its name – it is a paediatric journal, the readership is made up of paediatric endocrinologists, and it is the official journal of several paediatric endocrinology societies. Furthermore, compared to 20 years ago, topics related to adult endocrinology have practically disappeared from the journal. It is therefore timely to underline the paediatric specificity of the journal and change the title to '*Hormone Research in Paediatrics*' – a minimal alteration preserving the old title but placing the emphasis on 'Paediatrics'. '*Hormone Research*' is dead. Long live '*Hormone Research in Paediatrics*'!

We have added two new sections to the journal's content: Firstly, Stefano Cianfarani, the chair of the Clinical Practice Committee (CPC), has agreed to prepare and edit the CPC recommendations for publication in *Hormone Research in Paediatrics*. The recommendations reflect the ESPE opinion on a given clinical subject. The first publication of this section appears in this issue and an article on CPC recommendations will be published every 2 months. We hope that you will find this new initiative valuable in your clinical practice.

Secondly, we will be publishing articles on new techniques in various disciplines which are of extreme importance for our specialty, such as paediatric surgery, imag-

ing techniques, and new methods in molecular genetics. This year, we will present six papers on 'New techniques in Paediatric Endocrine Surgery'. We thank our paediatric surgeon colleagues specialized in endocrinology who have agreed to write articles describing the new techniques, including details of their successes, challenges, and work in progress.

I would also like to use this editorial to thank the Associate Editors for their collaboration over the past year. All talented people, they are very busy but felt that it was important to spend time in supporting the journal. Special mention goes to Peter Clayton who is leaving the Board of Associate Editors this year. Peter has been very active since 2004 with the review of the 'Novel Insight' articles. Thank you very much Peter for your commitment and thank you to Lourdes Ibañez who has accepted to join the Associate Editors in reviewing the 'Novel Insight' articles. My thanks also go to Jan Martin Wit for accepting to join the Mini Review section as Associate Editor. Jean-Claude Carel will be stepping down from his position as chair of the Mini Review committee and Mehul Dattani will be taking over. Thank you both very much. This is difficult and hard work but I am certain that the quality of the Mini Reviews has played an important role in the success of the journal.

My gratitude to the Editorial Board and to the many reviewers for willingly giving their time and much valued expertise. Last but not least, the journal would not exist without the excellent papers submitted to the journal. My gratitude also goes to the authors for their continuous support.

I wish you every success and a Happy New Year.

Paul Czernichow, Editor-in Chief