Editorial

It is our great pleasure to introduce to you this special issue of *Kidney and Blood Pressure Research* published on the occasion of the 48th Congress of the European Renal Association-European Dialysis and Transplantation Association (ERA-EDTA) in Prague.

Kidney and Blood Pressure Research is an official journal of the Czech and Hungarian Societies of Nephrology and Hypertension and the Polish Society of Nephrology. It has served now for almost 10 years as a central European journal of nephrology and hypertension and, undoubtedly, has helped to strengthen the cooperation of nephrologists and cardiologists of the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary with their colleagues in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Croatia and other European countries.

With the return of the ERA-EDTA Congress to Prague after very long 31 years, the Czech Society of Nephrology supported the idea of the Editors of *Kidney and Blood Pressure Research* to prepare this special issue containing outstanding reviews by the invited speakers of the ERA-EDTA Congress. Although the major attention has been paid to chronic renal failure and its complications (cross-talk between bone and vasculature, dyslipidemia in diabetics with renal failure, vitamin D and its analogues in chronic renal failure, angiogenesis in peritoneal dialysis,

relation between uremia and endothelial dysfunction, sudden death in chronic renal failure), we have omitted neither acute renal failure (dialytic treatment in septic acute renal failure), nor risk factors of chronic kidney disease (genetic disposition to decreased renal function, vasopressin as a risk factor of chronic kidney disease), pregnancy in chronic kidney disease, monitoring of renovascular disease and molecular predictors of rejection in renal transplantation. The last paper has been dedicated to the founder of the Czech nephrology and one of the former leading European nephrologists Jan Brod, president of the 2nd Congress of the International Society of Nephrology which took place in Prague in 1963.

We would like to express our thanks to all contributors who kindly agreed to prepare their papers in a very short time required to keep the term. This issue would not have been possible without the excellent work of the staff at Karger Publishing house.

We hope that you will enjoy the ERA-EDTA meeting in Prague and this special issue will help you to retain in mind several important topics to be discussed in the meeting.

Vladimir Tesar, Christoph Wanner,
Thomas Quaschnig and Ivan Rychlík, Editors