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Introduction

From the 23rd to the 25th of April, 1987, an International Symposium
on Pediatric Otology was held in Nijmegen, The Netherlands. This meeting was part of the continuing activities of the European Working Group in Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology and was hosted by the Department of Otorhinolaryngology, Nijmegen University. Joint sessions were held with The Netherlands Society for Otorhinolaryngology and Cervicofacial Surgery. Congenital aural atresia, serous otitis media and cholesteatoma in children were the main topics covered.

This volume of Advances in Oto-Rhino-Laryngology comprises most of the invited papers on these main topics. They provide not only new information but also present the state of the art of these diseases in children. In our opinion, also other otological diseases in children have to be the subject of our constant attention and scientific work. This book condenses one of the efforts to stimulate progress in our knowledge in the field of pediatric otology.

The editors are much indebted to the speakers for their contributions and especially for the efforts to make their work available for publication in this volume of Advances in Oto-Rhino-Laryngology. The editors are most grateful for the help and advice from Mrs. Greder of the Karger Publishing Co. The most hectic moments of the organization of this symposium were mastered by Mrs. Yolanda Hennink and Mrs. Gerry Westerlaken. Finally it should be mentioned that the organization of this symposium was supported by many sponsors. Financial support of the Duphar Company was of great help for the editors in publishing this volume.

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Gerrit Hoogland