Endocrine History

The mission of *Hormone Research in Paediatrics* (HRP) is “to improve the care of children with endocrine disorders by promoting basic and clinical knowledge.” This “basic and clinical knowledge” does not exist in a vacuum, nor was it handed down on stone tablets on a mountaintop, but derives from the accumulated clinical and experimental observations of thousands of investigators over hundreds of years. Knowing some of this rich history provides perspective about what we know versus what we may believe and enriches (and sometimes humbles) us as practicing endocrinologists. It is heuristic for young pediatric endocrinologists to see how the “received wisdom” of medical education derives from ordinary mortals, who have conflicts and make errors. To support this educational goal, HRP is introducing a new “Endocrine History” section named “Historical Contribution.” HRP will endeavor to publish about three history papers per year. Contributions to this history section may review the discovery, development, and history of a hormone, drug or other factor relevant to endocrinology, an endocrine organ, system or disorder, or the contributions of a major endocrine scientist or group of scientists and clinicians. Reproduction of classic or obscure ancient publications that may not be available through standard indexing services, including translation and commentary, will be welcome. Presentation of contem-

porary events, the work of living persons, and autobiographical contributions are discouraged. Because different topics may require rather different presentations, the manuscript guidelines will be flexible. Manuscripts should be about 3,000 words long and include detailed referencing; reproduction of classical images is encouraged. To facilitate this new venture, HRP has designated four Associate Editors, Ivo J.P. Arnhold, Evangelia Charmandari, Morey W. Haymond, and Walter L. Miller, to take primary responsibility for these historical contributions. Prospective authors are encouraged to contact one of these Associate Editors about prospective submissions. To inaugurate this new section of HRP, I have asked Walter L. Miller to review the history of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis; his article [1] provides an excellent example of one form that our new history papers may take. HRP will re-evaluate this section after 1–2 years, and may expand it if there is substantial interest. Please join us in making this new venture a success!

Stefano Cianfarani, Editor-in-Chief

References

- 1 Miller WL. The hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis: a brief history. [Horm Res Paediatr](#). DOI: 10.1159/000487755.