To Publish, or Not to Publish in *Hormone Research* – That Is the Question

Dear Colleagues,

A dedicated journal for a particular Society is of great value and the ESPE can be proud to have an official journal where we can publicise original work, review articles, clinical observations and consensus statements.

Hormone Research was founded 35 years ago and we are very grateful to our colleagues, Professors M. Marois, J. Girard and M.B. Ranke, the Editors-in-Chief, for maintaining our journal at a high scientific standard throughout this long period. Having served as Editor for the last two years, I am fully aware that this is not an easy task. I am fortunate to be supported in this enterprise by an imaginative and hard-working team of Associate Editors. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my colleagues for their collaboration and their strong and continuing commitment to the journal.

I am also grateful to the Board of Editors and all the referees who give their time to provide an unbiased peer review of articles submitted to the journal. The reviewing process is essential to support editorial work and ensure scientific rigour; it is also central to the success of the journal.

In 2005, 221 manuscripts were submitted to the journal. This is a major increase compared to the 147 submitted in 2004 and it is a strong signal that more colleagues are recognising *Hormone Research* as 'their' journal and the place to publish scientific articles in the field of paediatric endocrinology.

Whatever our opinion of the impact factor, we are to some extent ruled by this system and we all want to publish our work in the journal with the highest impact factor. I fully understand those who chose to submit their scientific work to journals with greater international recognition, if one takes the impact factor as a valid basis for evaluation. However I am convinced that *Hormone Research* circulates amply among colleagues who care for children, adolescents and young adults with endocrine diseases. In that respect, our journal is the best channel to spread new ideas in our field of expertise. Furthermore, sending high quality papers to our journal is certainly the most effective way to increase the *Hormone Research* impact factor. So indeed, you know my answer to the Shakespearean misquote. Yes, I think that *Hormone Research* is a valid option for the publication of good material in our field of interest. I am grateful therefore to all the colleagues who submitted their papers to *Hormone Research* in 2005. I have no doubt that we will publish even more high-standard papers in 2006.

May I take this opportunity to send my New Year greetings to all of you.

Paul Czernichow, Editor-in-Chief