

Editorial



The World Allergy Congress (WAC 2015) is approaching. It will be held in the magnificent city of Seoul, South Korea on October 14-17, 2015. Those who are going to attend this important event will really enjoy high standard scientific and social programs. I also encourage you to hurry and register to participate in the World Allergy Organization Symposium on Food Allergy and the Microbiome that will be held in Miami FL, USA, on December 5-6, 2015. There is still a chance for reduced registration and late breaking abstract submission. You will find a link to this meeting website (<http://www.worldallergy.org/wisc2012/>) on our home page (<http://www.espai-eg.org>) and info about this meeting and other important forthcoming events in the calendar of events of this issue .

Please get the latest updates on ESPAI meetings and activities from <http://www.espai-eg.org/scientific.htm>. Our 12th International Congress will be held on April 13-14, 2016 in Cairo Sonesta Hotel, Heliopolis. The preliminary program and list of international and local speakers will appear soon on the congress website.

This issue of the Egyptian Journal of Pediatric Allergy and Immunology contains many state of the art articles. The review article is an update on allergen detection in childhood asthma. It is tailed by some MCQs for self-assessment. Six original articles were carefully selected after peer-reviewing by International and local experts in the field. Neutrophil functions in late preterm neonates with respiratory distress syndrome are investigated in the first article. The second article is aimed to assess the hepatitis B virus vaccine immune response in Egyptian children 15-17 years after primary immunization. It raises a question about the need for booster immunization against hepatitis B. In the third article, the authors sought to investigate the association of polymorphisms of two histamine-metabolizing enzymes with allergic asthma in Egyptian children. Assessment of T lymphocyte subsets in children with beta thalassemia major with iron overload is the subject of the fourth article. The fifth article evaluates the role of osteopontin in children with systemic inflammatory response syndrome and sepsis and the last article investigates the presence of vitamin (D) deficiency in children and adolescents suffering from bronchial asthma in Suez Canal University Hospital, Ismailia. An English/Arabic glossary that contains a list of allergy and immunology relevant terms and expressions is included as well as a collection of abstracts from recent international publications in allergy/immunology .

I would like to remind you that the WAO e-letter (News & Notes) is displayed on our website both in English and Arabic on monthly basis. You will find reviews of recent international publications and a recent allergy/immunology book. A link on our homepage will guide you to the WAO online journal (World Allergy Organization Journal) and you can sign up to get the journal monthly alerts for free (<http://www.editorialmanager.com/waojournal/>). I encourage you indeed to submit your articles to this very well peer-reviewed journal .

We look forward to receiving some feedback from you on journal@espai-eg.org.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Y. EL GAMAL" with a horizontal line underneath.

Yehia El-Gamal
Editor-in-Chief.