



Preface
Pediatric otolaryngology



Charles D. Bluestone, MD



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Guest Editors

The topics included in this issue of the *Pediatric Clinics of North America* were selected for the purpose of providing readers with an overview of salient current concepts on otolaryngologic care for children. Hopefully, this issue will give readers a snapshot view of some important aspects of pediatric otolaryngology. Because this is the first issue of the *Pediatric Clinics of North America* devoted to the subject of pediatric otolaryngology in the new millennium, we want readers to note that an era is coming to a close.

Believe it or not, 25 years ago there was not an established or accepted subspecialty of pediatric otolaryngology. For a time, there was not widespread acceptance of the concept that there might be value in having some otolaryngologists focus their clinical care, research, and teaching on children with ear, nose, and throat diseases. Many pediatric otolaryngologists view Dr. Charles D. Bluestone as the father of modern-day pediatric otolaryngology. When Dr. Bluestone left Boston in 1976 to return to his hometown of Pittsburgh, he decided to devote his career in otolaryngology to the care of children. Furthermore, he made a conscious commitment to find answers to the lingering questions about how best to manage the common ear, nose, and throat disorders seen in children. During the ensuing years, Dr. Bluestone was joined by Dr. Sylvan Stool at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. These two pioneering pediatric otolaryngologists developed a renowned center for innovation, basic and applied research, and education. Since the inception of their fellowship, 58 fellows in pediatric otolaryngology have been trained at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. Many of these fellows have in turn established their own pediatric otolaryngology fellowships and centers of learning throughout the United States and in other countries.

In recognition of his many accomplishments that have been of great benefit to patients, pediatricians, otolaryngologists, students, scientists, and others, we dedicate this issue of the *Pediatric Clinics of North America* to Dr. Charles Bluestone, the esteemed father and now grandfather of pediatric otolaryngology in the United States.

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