

Preface



Robert Rapaport, MD
Guest Editor

The last issue of *Endocrinology and Metabolism Clinics of North America* dedicated to pediatric endocrinology was published in 2005. The great volume of significant scientific advances since then in endocrinology in general and pediatric endocrinology in particular has made it impossible to cover even the most salient advances in just one volume. Therefore, I am grateful to the editor, Dr. LeRoith, as well as the publisher for agreeing to produce a two-volume series on pediatric endocrinology.

Developments in genetics, genomics, and proteomics and the looming field of personalized medicine have made it imperative to start our two volumes with an introduction to genomics as it applies to pediatric endocrinology. As advances in neonatal medicine have helped an ever-increasing cadre of smaller and younger infants survive, I thought it was important to review newborn screening, after more than a quarter of a century since its worldwide acceptance, and to focus on congenital hypothyroidism as well as neonatal endocrinology.

Because the epidemic of obesity not only continues but also intensifies worldwide, articles on obesity as well as the metabolic syndrome in pediatrics were included, even though the topics were also presented in previous issues. Still the most common questions facing pediatric endocrinologists in the United States relate to growth. Because of that, the first issue of the *Clinics* will focus in on growth issues, looking at it from both basic elements of bone growth, with reviews covering growth hormone as well as insulinlike growth factor-1 treatment, and at ways of improving the adult height of treated individuals.

I would like to thank my colleagues worldwide who have graciously contributed their expertise to this endeavor. Without them, this project would have not succeeded. I would like to thank Dr. LeRoith, the editor of *Endocrinology and Metabolism Clinics of North America* for bestowing upon me the honor of editing these volumes. I also

would like to thank Rachel Glover, editor of *Clinics and Continuity* at Elsevier as well as her editorial staff and my assistant, Yolanne Blake, for their tireless efforts in the production of these issues.

Stay tuned for *Volume 2*.

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