Editorial

ESPAI is looking forward to welcome you next February at its annual congress (ESPAI 2006). It will be an international event hosting GLORIA (Global Resources in Allergy) which is the program initiated by the World Allergy Organization (WAO) to promote allergy training and practice all over the world. ESPAI will host the Gloria speakers who are distinguished international guests coming to share their knowledge and experience with ESPAI members and guests. ESPAI 2006 will be held on February 16-17, 2006 in Cairo Sheraton Hotel and will contain many other scientific and social delights. You may download the registration and abstract submission forms from our website (www.espai-eg.org).

This issue of the Egyptian Journal of Pediatric Allergy and Immunology contains subjects that are of paramount significance. The review article is about cardiac manifestations of autoimmune rheumatologic disorders that affect children. Kawasaki disease as one of the immune vasculitis syndromes affecting children is the subject of the continuous medical education corner which contains an article followed by 20 MCQs for self assessment. Also, the patient education tips (in Arabic language) are dedicated to patients with Kawasaki disease. The glossary of this issue serves the subject of immune vasculitis as well.

The original articles were chosen amongst many submitted manuscripts after peer reviewal by experts in the field. The first article, in my opinion, is important to clinicians and researchers interested in lupus nephritis. It demonstrates the value of the antinucleosome antibody testing in the prediction of SLE nephropathy in pediatric patients especially those who have negative double stranded-DNA antibody test results. Value of the serum mucosa-associated epithelial chemokine as an objective marker of atopic dermatitis severity was investigated by the authors of the second article and the results led to some interesting conclusions.

Starting from this issue, a new section is added which is a selection of international abstracts gathered from other periodicals to help you revise what is new in research about allergy and immunology; please send us your feedback on journal@espai-eg.org. Do not forget to look at the calendar of national and international allergy and immunology events. You will find their websites included for more details.

If you go through our website you will notice the presence of an Arabic translation of the WAO News and Notes (WAO E-letter). It will be monthly renewed so please mention it to your patients and any lay organizations that you know. We look forward to receiving your feedback on espai@espai-eg.org. The English version is accessible through the link present on our home page. As you all know, ESPAI has become an associate member society of the WAO since July 2005. WAO News and Notes is edited by Prof. Richard Lockey, Director of the Division of Allergy and Immunology, University of South Florida. Links to websites of other important allergy and immunology organizations such as the AAAAI and EAACI are also present.

I hope that this, and every issue, of the Egyptian Journal of Pediatric Allergy and Immunology would be up to your needs and expectations.

Yehia El-Gamal
Editor-in-Chief.