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Preface

The aim of this volume is to present the latest global knowledge of the thyroid in children and adolescents. The book consists of 16 chapters starting with the ontogenesis and anatomy of the hypothalamic-pituitary-thyroid axis and ending with the thyroid and trace elements which affect thyroid function in this age group. Special emphasis has been placed on including novel information regarding specific topics of thyroid function.

Distinguished experts in the fields of pediatric endocrinology, thyroidology and molecular endocrinology review the present knowledge and advances in pediatric thyroidology. Topics ranging from thyroid disease during pregnancy to iodine deficiency and excess in childhood, thyroid autoimmunity in pediatric age, hypothyroidism and hyperthyroidism in pediatric age, thyroid eye disease in childhood, thyroid cancer in pediatric age, and many others are included.

We believe that this book will become one of the main reference sources for pediatricians and endocrinologists and provide the reader with further insights into the pathophysiology, clinical presentation and treatment of thyroid disease.

We wish to thank the whole team at Karger publishers as well as our colleagues and the many authors who did the hard work and from whom we have learned a lot. They all approached their assignments with tremendous enthusiasm, met their short deadlines extremely well, and dealt with suggestions and comments with promptness and restraint. We thank them cordially for their efforts. We hope the reader is equally enthusiastic.

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