Early exposure to maternal smoking and reproductive function in girls

(see paper by Gollenberg et al., pp. 36–44)
Pointing in new directions in obesity research and clinical care

Metabolic Syndrome and Obesity in Childhood and Adolescence

Editors
Wieland Kiess
Martin Wabitsch
Claudio Maffeis
Arya M. Sharma

Despite the fact that the prevalence of obesity in early childhood has been stable and is no longer increasing in many developed and industrialized countries, the incidence of both obesity and full-blown metabolic syndrome in children and adolescents is still very high. Obesity is a major disease burden in all societies and needs to be prevented early in life. New approaches are eagerly sought and absolutely necessary.

This book presents a comprehensive and state-of-the-art summary of current and new knowledge in this critical field. Crucial issues such as nutrition and genetics are described in detail. In addition, new ideas such as e-health and the consequences of urban living conditions are explored. Last but not least, modern treatment concepts and prevention even at an early age are competently discussed.

Offering a valuable update on new developments in obesity research and the treatment in children and adolescents, this book is essential reading for all pediatricians and health-care professionals who look after young patients on a regular basis.

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Paediatric Thyroidology

Editor: Gabor Szinnai

This book presents a comprehensive overview of paediatric thyroid diseases and thus provides a useful tool for clinical problem solving. Opinion leaders in the field present reviews on all relevant diseases of the hypothalamic-pituitary-thyroid axis. Sixteen chapters cover topics ranging from foetal thyroidology, congenital hypothyroidism, central hypothyroidism, inherited defects of thyroid hormone action, cell transport and metabolism to iodine deficiency, autoimmune thyroid disease and thyroid tumours. Written by clinicians, the chapters provide in-depth information and current guidelines for clinical problems encountered in paediatric thyroidology. As a unique feature, a case seminar collection for each chapter presents typical patient histories providing key learning points and key references for clinical problem solving in family medicine, paediatric endocrinology and medical genetics.

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This first special topic issue of Hormone Research in Paediatrics is completely dedicated to Genetics of Growth, a rapidly developing area of paediatric endocrinology associated with the stormy progress of genetic techniques. The topics covered in this issue include the role of zinc in the process of secretory granule biogenesis in somatotrophs; novel mutations in various parts of the growth hormone-IGF axis, including GHI, GHR, IGFLS and IGF1R; discussion of a website containing clinical, biochemical and genetic information about presently known genes in this axis; clinical characteristics of children with SHOX defects and Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome, and association analysis and pharmacogenetics in relation to growth and growth response to growth hormone. The papers illustrate that in this fast moving field close collaboration between clinicians and geneticists, and between paediatric endocrinologists around the world, is necessary to solve diagnostic problems in short or tall individuals, and to get a better insight into the phenotypic spectrum of the genetic causes thereof.

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Fetal growth restriction is possibly the commonest of the great obstetric syndromes. Small fetuses and newborns have a higher risk of intrauterine fetal death and poorer perinatal outcome, and suffer fetal programming and remodeling in different organ systems, which may decrease life expectancy and quality of life. This special issue deals with all of the current relevant topics and challenges concerning the management of fetal growth restriction, and contains several updated reviews about prevention, management and postnatal consequences, as well as original papers that provide new insights into the pathophysiology and clinical management of this syndrome.

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