

From the executive editor

News and comment

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THE CURRENT ISSUE OF CARDIOLOGY IN THE YOUNG IS important for several reasons. First, the issue will be published so as to be available at the *World Congress of Pediatric Cardiology and Pediatric Cardiac Surgery*, which will be held in Paris from June 21st to 25th. At the same time, we will also publish a supplement containing the abstracts for this important meeting. Another feature of the meeting will be the World Forum prize. This award will be given to the best presenter of those abstracts selected for delivery in the main symposiums. Six abstracts have been selected by Professor Kachaner and the Scientific Committee, and the winner will be chosen by a panel selected by the *World Forum for Pediatric Cardiology*, the body holding responsibility for the publication of *Cardiology in the Young*. It is our hope that the manuscripts corresponding to these presentations will be published in our subsequent issues.

The second innovation is the appearance of two features which, in future issues, we intend to publish as regular events. The financial implications of health care, and the management issues these involve, have always been important. The recent world-wide recession has magnified the problems of who should finance the provision of care, and how the care can best, and most efficiently, be implemented. In this issue, Dr. Tim Garson has provided a thought provoking editorial as an introduction to this crucial topic. His new position at Duke University includes a formal role in health care management, and he has taken on editorial responsibility for this area in *Cardiology in the Young*. He hopes to coordinate regular features in each issue, both by invitation and by review of material submitted by interested parties. All of you who share his interest in this burgeoning area, therefore, are encouraged to submit manuscripts or viewpoints for potential publication. The other area which we hope to develop as a regular feature of our columns is clinicopathological correlation. This, already, is a matter central to my own interests, and I will be coordinating our activities in this field. In this issue, my colleague and friend, Dr. Jane Somerville, has supervised the preparation of a fascinating case, aided ably by Dr. Rafael Hirsch and Dr. Leon Gerlis, Leon providing the much-needed pathological expertise and also his excellent artistic skills. We have many potential future cases for publication from our own files, but we do not wish only to

develop this area in parochial fashion. As with the issue of health care, therefore, all of those with an interest in clinicopathological correlation are encouraged to submit suitable cases or, even better, suitable series for publication. Remember that, in *Cardiology in the Young*, we are able to publish superb color illustrations at no cost to our authors.

The final exciting content of this issue is the first part of our symposium on cardiopulmonary bypass. This important area of pediatric cardiac surgery is increasingly recognized as having an equal importance for the pediatric cardiologist, anesthetist and intensivist. Encouraged by our Executive Editor, Dr. Giancarlo Crupi, Drs. Ross Ungerleider and Bill Greeley of Duke University, together with Dr. Richard Jonas of Boston Children's Hospital, have assembled an able cast to review recent advances in this burgeoning field. Eleven reviews and discussions by world-acknowledged experts are grouped together in this issue as the first part of our symposium, headed by an introductory editorial by Ross, Bill and Richard. We are grateful to these colleagues for their time and effort spent in inviting articles and ensuring that they were delivered on time, as well as ensuring that the scientific quality of the manuscripts was as expected. The remaining manuscripts, covering the other equally important areas relating to cardiopulmonary bypass, will be published in our next issue. All those who read these important articles will discover all they need to know (and a good portion which they might not need to know but which has important implications!) about all aspects of cardiopulmonary bypass and its effect on the heart, the brain, and the other systems of the body.

In preparing this important issue, we have introduced several new and important items. We have also tried not to exclude more "regular" articles. You will find important original articles concerned with such diverse topics as the fenestrated Fontan procedure, Kawasaki disease and residual patency of the arterial duct after surgical ligation. There is also a fascinating editorial describing attempts at extracorporeal membrane oxygenation performed during the nineteenth century, leading the way to a review of the current role of this procedure. All in all, there should be something for everyone in this issue. Those of you who are present at the Paris meeting should take the opportunity to visit our booth. We are always interested to hear your views about the Journal.