

Editorial

We are pleased to present the second issue of the second Volume of the *International Journal of Pediatrics and Child Health*. The present issue includes four papers which altogether cover different themes ranging from fetal pathology, pediatric oncology and gastroenterology to the psychological field of stress in children. The above described combination of contents is consistent with the aim of the present Journal, that is to promote and encourage a 360° degrees approach in the care of children, starting from prenatal care of the fetus to embracing the theme of the child's psychological and emotional development.

In the first contribution entitled *Towards a New Era of Fetal Tobacco Syndrome*, authors address the topic of prenatal exposure to tobacco smoking and its effect on the ongoing pregnancy and on the child after birth. The changes that have occurred in recent years and the direction we are heading to with regards to the Fetal Tobacco Syndrome are highlighted.

The second paper entitled *Surgical Debulking Plus Adjuvant Chemoradiotherapy of a Huge Basal Ganglion Nongerminatous Germ Cell Tumor with a Long Term Survival*, describes a therapeutic approach used to tackle a rare case of a huge basal ganglion germ cell tumor of non-germinomatous type, which generally has a worse prognosis compared to the intracranial germinomas. The therapeutic approach consisted of a combination of aggressive surgical debulking technique associated with adjuvant chemo- and radiotherapy, resulting in long term survival.

In the third paper entitled *Helicobacter Pylori and Iron Deficiency Anemia in Children: Case Series and Review of Literature*, authors address the controversial issue of a causal relationship between *Helicobacter pylori* infection and occurrence of iron deficiency anemia in children. The paper is structured in two sections. The first represented by the case series of two children diagnosed with *Helicobacter pylori* related iron deficiency anemia and the second section a thorough review of the literature, describing the contrasting data currently available in literature on this topic.

The last paper, *The Perceived Stress Scale for Children: A Pilot Study in a Sample of 153 Children*, describes a pilot study aimed to test a scale for perceived stress in children. The perceived stress scale is a self-reported tool which has the intent to assess the feeling of being overwhelmed and being unable to control or predict events in one's life. Stress is increasingly becoming an issue in children and adolescents and is associated with reduced quality of life and reduced school performance. Hence, the importance of having a validated instrument for stress assessment also in pediatric age.

We hope that the readers will find the topics of interest and useful to broaden scientific knowledge and improve every day practice. We thank all the authors for their valuable contribution in the production of the papers.

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