

## Cesare Romano



*Professor of Pediatrics, University of Genoa – G. Gaslini Institute, Italy (b Voghera, Italy 5 July 1924; q 1952 University of Pavia, MD; 1954 University of Genoa, PhD), d 23 April 2008*

Professor Cesare Romano, pediatrician, passed away at the age of 83. Trained in the renowned school of pediatrics founded and directed by Giovanni de Toni, in 1963 Romano first described the syndrome that in part bears his name: the Romano–Ward syndrome. A careful and painstaking clinician, he was interested in all facets of pediatrics; nevertheless, he was particularly drawn to two fields of special scientific and socio-medical impact: cystic fibrosis and inborn metabolic

diseases (IMD). As Director of the Endocrine and Metabolic Disease Center of the University of Genoa Pediatric Clinic, he was a pioneer in IMD and in newborn screening programs in Italy, as well as a fervent advocate of the first Italian regional law (Liguria Region, 1973) on newborn screening. Director of the University Department of Pediatrics from 1978 and, thereafter, of the Residency Program in Pediatrics, he was an enlightening teacher for his students, and an inspiring and charismatic leader for all of his co-workers. Beginning in the 1980s, he regularly conceived, convened and animated yearly national conferences on newborn screening programs in Italy, efforts that led in 1995 to the establishment of the Italian Society for Newborn Screening (SISN), of which he was a founding member and first President. He has been member of the SSIEM and President in occasion of the 37th Annual Symposium held in Genoa in 1999.

The void that Cesare Romano has left in his pupils, colleagues and peers can only be filled by the memory of his kindness, of his politeness and of his teachings. He leaves the wife Maria Grazia, three sons, two daughters and ten grandsons and granddaughters.

[Ubaldo Caruso]