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EDITORIAL

Genetics of primary hyperparathyroidism, our first Batrinos' scholar review, metabolic syndrome, and quite a bit of reproductive endocrinology: a great issue

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In the last issue of 2023, we featured the obituary of the great teacher and physician-scientist, Prof. Menelaos Batrinos [1], and acquainted you with the initiative we undertook last year to establish the *Menelaos Batrinos Annual Workshop* in his memory, sponsored by the Hellenic Endocrine Society [2]. As part of this annual event, a well-known scholar is invited to lecture and, through discussion and Q&A sessions, provide knowledge and guidance concerning cases and research that pertain to their field of expertise. Junior researchers, fellows-in-training, and students participated in the first such event that was held in March 2023 and was dedicated to everything calcium: it was our great pleasure to hear the highly informative lectures delivered by Prof. Raj Thakker on updates in parathyroid disease. In this issue of *Hormones*, we are honored to host a review article on the genetics of primary hyperparathyroidism coauthored by Prof. Thakker and his colleagues [3].

In addition, this first issue of the year hosts excellent reviews on oxytocin [4], thyroid-dependent eye disease [5], final height in children with type-1 diabetes [6], and polycystic ovarian syndrome [7]. We are truly fortunate to host these reviews that I trust will contribute usefully to your everyday clinical practice: they aim at capturing the updates and placing special emphasis on clinical applications of a very broad range of contemporary knowledge in the respective fields.

Long COVID is a syndrome that is associated with sometimes severe endocrine dysfunction [8]. We have published a large number of studies on this condition, which points to our interest in long COVID and related hormonal disruptions [9–11]. In this issue of the journal, Vrettou et al. report on a prospective study of endocrine function in long-COVID [12]. It is important to continue to support this line of research for the benefit of the many patients suffering from the related symptomatology, especially now that the pandemic has abated and COVID is no longer in the daily news cycle. As is the case in other chronic viral infections, the long-term consequences of COVID are often serious, sometimes associated with debilitating disease, and few, if any, therapies are at present available. As mentioned, in these serious cases of long COVID, the endocrine system is profoundly affected, and it behooves all of us to be aware of the related symptomatology and to support our patients with optimal treatments.

This issue of the journal has several other outstanding papers. From *PROP1* defects [13], acromegaly and bone markers [14] to thyroid diseases, including one related to COVID [15–17], the use of hair cortisol in the investigation of adrenal incidentalomas [18], diabetes and metabolic syndrome [19–21], reproductive endocrinology [22–25], and a pediatric case of a newborn with hypospadias and the related metabolic and genetic studies [26].

This first issue of HORMONES in 2024 once more displays our vision of a journal that covers all areas of endocrinology and offers new knowledge to our diverse audience, which includes students, fellows-in-training, clinicians in practice, academic physicians, and other physician-scientists. I trust you will enjoy it too and continue to support our efforts to publish good science in addition to educating the next generation of physicians in hormonal medicine.

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