

Editorial



I encourage you all to hurry and register to participate in the World Allergy Congress (WAC 2011) that will be held in Cancun-Mexico, on December 4-8, 2011. You will find information about and a link to this congress on the WAO website (<http://www.worldallergy.org>) and on our home page (<http://www.espai-eg.org>). It is a unique event that will gather many pioneers and experts in allergy and clinical Immunology from all over the world. Do not miss this opportunity.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that ESPAI will hold its second workshop on the diagnosis and treatment of bronchial asthma on December 21-22, 2011 at Dar Al-Diyafa of Ain Shams University. The registration deadline is November 15, 2011. It will contain many brief lectures and clinical presentations as well as hands-on sessions about skin prick testing and inhalation devices. I would also like to invite you to our next annual meeting, the 9th International Congress of ESPAI (ESPAI 2012) that will be held in Sonesta Hotel, Heliopolis-Cairo, on February 15-16, 2012. Our congress that was scheduled in February, 2011 was cancelled due to the curfew during our revolution. We are happy to resume our congress activities and will host some of the best local and international figures in the world of allergy/immunology offering their knowledge and experience in presentations and discussions. Please get the latest updates from the congress link (<http://www.espai-eg.org/scientific.htm>).

This issue of the Egyptian Journal of Pediatric Allergy and Immunology contains subjects that are of paramount significance. The review article is about mast cell and atopy. It covers most updates on this pathogenetic mechanism of atopy and is tailed by 10 MCQs for self assessment. Five original articles were carefully selected after peer-review by International and local experts in the field. A letter to the editor submitted by a professor of gastroenterology and hepatology from Tehran is also included. It tackles the subject of booster HBV vaccination and its necessity.

A valuable collection of recent allergy/immunology abstracts from international periodicals is included as usual. Do not forget to go through our glossary of allergy and immunology medical terms and our calendar of forthcoming allergy/immunology scientific meetings.

Should you have any comments or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us on journal@espai-eg.org.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Y. EL GAMAL" with a horizontal line underneath.

Yehia El-Gamal
Editor-in-Chief.