

Editorial

ESPAI will celebrate the World Allergy Week (WAW 2023) next June. This year, it adopted a topic of the impact of climate change on asthma and allergies. ESPAI will hold a webinar to discuss this matter and it will be open for attendance without any fees. Details will be available soon on our website (<http://www.espai-eg.org>) and on our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/TheESPAI>). For further info and resources about the past and present WAW events, visit the World Allergy Organization website (<https://www.worldallergy.org/resources>).

Our next international congress will be held in-person (face to face) for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, on October 25-26, in Cairo Sheraton Hotel. The congress as usual will be internationally accredited and will provide CME hours. It will host very imminent international speakers that will visit Egypt for the first time, and this will enrich our program indeed. Registration and attendance of sessions will be free of charge! Mark your calendar and wait for details from our website and Facebook page.

This issue of the Egyptian Journal of Pediatric Allergy and Immunology contains many state-of-the-art articles. The review article is entitled “Insight into Gastrointestinal Manifestations of Some Pediatric Autoinflammatory Disorders”. These disorders are being increasingly diagnosed due to improved awareness. Their GIT manifestations are often mixed with other diseases, and this causes a significant diagnostic lag. The article focuses on some common autoinflammatory diseases that are met with in the pediatric age groups.

Three original articles were carefully selected after peer-reviewing by international and local experts in the field. The first article explores the size of the thymus gland in infants and children with atopic dermatitis. Atopic dermatitis pathogenesis involves a significant activation of T cells in lesional and even non-lesional skin and the thymus is a key organ concerned with T cell immune response in early life. The results showed that the thymic size was positively correlated to disease severity as assessed by the SCORAD index. HLA-DR4 gene expression in a sample of Egyptian autistic children and their mothers was investigated in the second article. It is a controlled cross-sectional study conducted on 100 subjects. (Autistic and healthy children as well as their mothers). The authors concluded that the expression of some HLA alleles in the studied sample suggests a possible contributing role of these alleles to the autoimmune manifestations encountered in some autistic children. In the third article, the authors studied the IL 13rs20541 single nucleotide polymorphism and the serum IL-13 level in a group of children with bronchial asthma. Their data provides some evidence for an association between IL-13 rs20541 SNP polymorphism and asthma in Egyptian children, while serum IL-13 was linked to the severity of symptoms.

An English/Arabic glossary that contains a list of allergy and immunology relevant terms and expressions is included as well as a collection of abstracts from recent international publications in allergy/immunology. Do not forget to take a glance on the list of upcoming Allergy/Immunology global events in our journal’s calendar.

We wish to remind you that our open access journal has been recognized as an international publication since it was indexed in the Web of Science (Clarivate) four years ago. In 2021, it became ranked as a Q4 journal. Visit our website (<https://www.jespai.org/>) to get free access to all articles and submit your work. You may contact us through the “contact us” icon in our website on your left-hand side. You can also get news of our journal from its Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/jespai>).

We look forward to receiving your comments and suggestions.

The Editors