

Dear Colleagues,

I invite you to read the current number of the *Journal of Hearing Science*. The issue starts with a challenging paper which, based on a broad survey of the literature, points to a direct link between middle ear muscle dysfunction and Meniere's disease. This is a seminal topic at the moment as the origins of Meniere's disease are still unclear and successful treatments are elusive. As well as giving an historical overview of the disease, the paper proposes a simple physical mechanism involving elevated pressure within the labyrinth generated by abnormal muscle activity. If correct, this new perspective might mean that an effective therapy for the condition is possible.

Other papers in this issue focus on the perception of tinnitus in cochlear implant patients, the effect of extending response windows when testing children for their auditory processing ability, and the results of a program following the course of hearing and language development in NICU infants. There is also an interesting case study on the use of a cochlear implant for profound sensorineural hearing loss in a patient with Cogan's syndrome.

There are also some reports from recent meetings such as International Tinnitus Week; the 1st African Cochlear Implant Meeting; the International eHealth, Telemedicine and Health ICT Forum; the 13th Warsaw International Medical Congress; and the 13th European Symposium on Pediatric Cochlear Implants (ESPCI). The issue concludes with abstracts of the 2nd International Congress of Audiology in Aveiro, Portugal.



With kind regards and greetings,

Prof. Henryk Skarzynski, M.D., Ph.D., Dr.h.c.multi