

Dear Colleagues,

I invite you to read the last number of JHS for 2017. This wraps up a very busy year for the journal. This year we have published abstracts from three influential conferences in the field of audiology – the International Evoked Response Audiometry Study Group (IERASG) Biennial Symposium, the 1st World Tinnitus Congress, and the Congress of the European Federation of Audiological Societies (EFAS). Publishing abstracts is always tricky as there are deadlines to be met and at the same time there are often last minute changes to the conference program. Nevertheless, the benefit of publishing conference abstracts in a journal is that both the conference and especially the authors receive increased recognition. Such an opportunity is always possible in JHS and we always encourage organizers of meetings to contact us.



During the second half of the year we also changed our website and online editorial system. We hope this will improve the presence of our journal on the Internet. However I would like to apologize if you encountered any inconvenience or delays in processing your manuscript.

This issue contains research papers in topical areas such as electrophysiological responses to speech stimuli, fMRI studies of the hearing system, and some aspects of tinnitus. There is also a very interesting paper which sets out a new perspective on how the acoustic reflex works, suggesting that the middle ear muscles might be directly triggered by physical vibration of the eardrum.

The issue concludes with reports from otolaryngological and audiological conferences that took place over the year.

With kind regards and greetings,  
*Prof. Henryk Skarzynski, M.D., Ph.D., Dr.h.c.multi*