

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to invite you to read the second issue of the *Journal of Hearing Science* for 2025, an issue bringing you a wide selection of studies spanning tinnitus care, pharmacological vigilance, hormonal influences on hearing, safe listening, and childhood auditory development.

We begin with key insights from the 2025 World Tinnitus Congress and XIV International Tinnitus Seminar, held this year in Warsaw. This landmark gathering of researchers and clinicians revealed fresh possibilities for tinnitus and hyperacusis therapy, integrating cognitive behavioral approaches, somatosensory modulation, emerging drug treatments, and tele-audiology tools. From validated assessment methods for children to precision surgery for pulsatile tinnitus, the event highlighted a move toward care that is more tailored towards each patient's needs.

Other papers in this issue also offer valuable perspectives. A systematic review of adverse drug reactions provides clinicians with practical guidance in identifying medication-related effects on hearing, balance, and vocal health. A study on natural versus surgical menopause reveals how sudden hormonal changes can disrupt the brain's timing in sound processing, suggesting new avenues for intervention. Research into the acoustic outputs of headphones show that there are differences between combinations of devices and earbuds – sometimes above safe volume limits – and point to the need for stronger standards and safer listening habits. Finally, an assessment of Polish infants and toddlers using the LittleEARS® Auditory Questionnaire uncovers delays in some older children, reinforcing the importance of regular auditory development checks at 12 and 24 months.

Together, these contributions offer both inspiration and practical tools for improving hearing health at every stage of life. I encourage you to explore these articles and apply their insights to your own field of work.



With kind regards and greetings,

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