

## Editorial

# Nutrition of infants and young children

The journal is receiving many papers on childhood nutrition. The editorial board has therefore decided to dedicate a number of issues of the journal to research on children's nutritional health, interventions in children, and policy implications. This issue is especially targeting research on children of pre-school age or younger.

The first paper involves monitoring and surveillance from the perspective of child growth<sup>(1)</sup>. It is a very important paper, pointing at the large number of countries that have adopted the new growth standards based on breast-fed children.

Assessment is dealt with in papers related to physical activity<sup>(2)</sup>, possession score *v.* poverty index<sup>(3)</sup> and a nutrition knowledge questionnaire<sup>(4)</sup>. Breast-feeding is of course an important part of this issue, looking at links between breast-feeding and adiposity<sup>(5)</sup> and the father's role in breast-feeding support<sup>(6)</sup>.

The very hot topic of cognition and nutrition is dealt with in two papers<sup>(7,8)</sup>. Childhood nutrition of course includes issues of undernutrition<sup>(9,10)</sup>, stunting<sup>(11)</sup>, general growth<sup>(12)</sup> and nutrient status<sup>(13,14)</sup>. Among the interventions, the interested reader can find a folic acid intervention during pregnancy<sup>(8)</sup> and a nutrition and physical activity intervention in 2–4-year-olds<sup>(15)</sup>. Effects of a change in foods approved by the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) on food sales are described<sup>(16)</sup>, and last but not least, an important paper on the targeting of children in marketing of foods<sup>(17)</sup> is included in this issue. We wish you a good time reading this issue; and trust that you will find good use for the included papers and perhaps of the complete issue in teaching or in your own research.

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