



# Endocrine Development

**Vol. 26**

Series Editor

**P.-E. Mullis** Bern



# Paediatric Thyroidology

Volume Editor

**Gabor Szinnai** Basel

51 figures, 17 in color, and 26 tables, 2014

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## Endocrine Development

Founded 1999 by Martin O. Savage, London

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Paediatric thyroidology / volume editor, Gabor Szinnai.

p. ; cm. -- (Endocrine development, ISSN 1421-7082 ; Vol. 26)

Pediatric thyroidology

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-3-318-02720-4 (hard cover : alk. paper) -- ISBN 978-3-318-02721-1 (electronic version)

I. Szinnai, Gabor, editor. II. Title: Pediatric thyroidology. III. Series: Endocrine development ; v. 26. 1421-7082

[DNLM: 1. Thyroid Diseases. 2. Thyroid Gland--physiology. 3. Adolescent. 4. Child. 5.

Infant. W1 EN3635 v.26 2014 / WK 200]

RJ418

618.92'4--dc23

2014025445

This volume replaces *Pediatric and Adolescent Endocrinology* 1985, Vol. 14, 'Pediatric Thyroidology' (out of print).

Bibliographic Indices. This publication is listed in bibliographic services, including Current Contents®.

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www.karger.com

Printed in Germany on acid-free and non-aging paper (ISO 9706) by Kraft Druck GmbH, Ettlingen

ISSN 1421-7082

e-ISSN 1662-2979

ISBN 978-3-318-02720-4

e-ISBN 978-3-318-02721-1

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## Preface

An early Karger publication on thyroid disease in children, *Pediatric Thyroidology*, edited by F. Delange, D.A. Fisher and P. Malvaux, appeared in 1985. It represented an extensive summary of the body of knowledge of all the thyroid diseases encountered by paediatricians and paediatric endocrinologists. Almost 30 years later, it is still a source of fascinating data with detailed clinical and scintigraphic descriptions of thyroid physiology and thyroid diseases.

This up-to-date volume resumes this tradition and summarizes the latest knowledge on all clinically relevant aspects of thyroid diseases – from the neonate to the adolescent. There are 15 clinical chapters, providing reviews of distinguished experts in the field. The chapters cover topics ranging from the developmental role of thyroid hormones, fetal thyroidology, congenital hypothyroidism, central hypothyroidism, inherited defects of thyroid hormone cell membrane transport and thyroid hormone action to iodine deficiency, autoimmune thyroid disease and thyroid tumours. All of the chapters are written to provide detailed clinical and molecular knowledge, and to review the current guidelines in paediatric thyroidology.

To extend the classical textbook format, the final chapter ‘Clinical case seminar in pediatric thyroid disease’ comprises a collection of representative case histories selected by each chapter author. This ‘crystalline’ form of the preceding 15 chapters aims at providing concise key learning points and references to specific problems encountered in clinical practice.

I am grateful to Prof. Primus Mullis, the editor of the *Endocrine Development* series, and Karger Publishers, for inviting me to edit this book. I wish to thank all of the authors and colleagues who participated in this book project with great enthusiasm despite short deadlines to provide an up-to-date volume and illustrated case histories. The chapters reflect their tremendous experience and commitment to children with thyroid diseases. Together with all of the coauthors, I hope the book will be useful for the reader and their patients.

Gabor Szinnai, Basel

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