

## Editorial

To you little Mia...

The theme of this March 2022 issue of the Belgian Journal of Paediatrics is devoted to neonatology. It was coordinated by Luc Cornette on behalf of the Belgian Association of Neonatologists (BVN/GBN). Neonatologists from all the 19 Belgian NICU provide an update on several topics of interest to the entire paediatric community. We thank our guest editor and all the authors for their very dedicated commitment. This issue is also the occasion to present the new logo of the BVN/GBN group. Our cartoonist Serge Ernst has put it into perspective on the journal cover and illustrated the "family-centered care" philosophy through his famous comic book character.

Exceptionally, we would like to dedicate this neonatal issue to a tiny baby girl...

To you, little Mia, who was born in the night of February 25, 2022, in the Kyiv underground metro as your mother was taking shelter from the bombing. Your birth in such dramatic circumstances is a shock for the whole of Europe. It reminds us of the stories of our parents or grandparents who described the births and deliveries in the cellars of Belgium during the bombings of the Second World War. This is not what we, paediatricians and neonatologists, expect for babies and parents !

Since 1945 and even more since the end of the cold war, our socio-economic model has led us to believe that peace, health, education or well-being for all, are values that emerge spontaneously, unquestionably, in response to sustained and continuous growth. Today, events such as the pandemic, the climate changes and the war in Ukraine, show us that the "happy globalization" does not bring, in itself, all the solutions. Whether we like it or not, other natural, political, and economic logics are also at work. As the Dutch historian and philosopher Luuk van Middelaar describes, we are currently experiencing a confrontation between the force of principles and the principles of force. History has already shown us that violence does not solve anything. Our principles and moral values progress when we become aware of their importance and their fragility... when we live them with coherence and cohesion. This is what we wish for you, little Mia... for you and for the newborns all over the world !

Beside the theme articles, we are pleased to publish research and review articles. K. Keiren and colleagues analyze the current practices on vitamin K prophylaxis in term neonates. F. De Vleeschauwer and G. Naulaers review the neuroprotective strategies of neonatal encephalopathy in low-resource settings. The "*Made in Belgium*" section summarizes the PhD thesis of Mariska de Lausnay from University of Antwerp about lower airway pathology in children with Down syndrome. She provides a systematic overview of the different pulmonary and airway problems in this specific population and provide a more patient-tailored clinical approach. At the Cochrane corner, we discuss whether the use of bottles interferes with breastfeeding success in preterm infants whose mothers want to breastfeed.

This issue also gives us the opportunity to introduce our new online submission tool. As previously announced, for several months, a working group from the editorial board has been optimizing our submission and review processes. This has led to the development of a new website (<http://www.belgijpaediatrics.be>) and to an update of our editorial policy. Manuscripts can now be submitted online. The instructions for authors and editorial policy are detailed at the end of this issue and on the journal website. We would like to thank Levi Hoste and Marek Wojciechowski and the "online submission tool" group for carrying out this work. It will definitely increase the visibility of our journal on a national and international level.

On behalf of the entire editorial board, we wish you a peaceful reading and a glorious springtime !

**Christophe Chantrain and Marc Raes**

**Uw vragen of commentaar  
Vos questions ou commentaires**



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