Dear Colleagues, Dear Readers,

In the middle of the sunny summer, we would like to give you the opportunity to gain new knowledge useful for all endocrinologists, both those focused on research and clinical practitioners. Our journal is increasingly useful and recognizable, which is reflected by an increase in the International Impact Factor for Endokrynologia Polska (EP), which currently is 1,341. We are happy to inform you that this is the highest score in the last 5 years and we thank all those who contributed to this success.

The fourth issue in 2017 of EP begins with the neuroendocrine paper by Romanian authors who search for substances that would increase the clinical relevance of histological examination of the resected pituitary tissue. The results obtained indicate that pituitary adenomas with S100+/EGFR+ expression are likely to belong to aggressive tumours characterized by high invasiveness and recurrence rate. Such observation may be valuable in the monitoring of postoperative patients.

Another original paper shows that 10-year risk of cardiovascular death is correlated with osteoporosis and 10-year risk of osteoporotic fracture, which could be helpful in identifying patients with osteoporosis who require extended cardiological treatment.

Surgery remains the most effective treatment for primary hyperparathyroidism. The original Iranian work presents the results of treatment with radioguided minimally invasive paratyroidectomy, which is a technique used for detecting and incising abnormal parathyroid glands. The researchers compared the use of low and high doses of Tc-99m-MIBI.

Fat mass and obesity-related gene (FTO), which is one of the genes of interest to researchers, is described in the paper by the diabetologists from the centre in Zabrze who have studied the polymorphisms of this gene in the context of the incidence of type 2 diabetes in young, middle-aged and elderly people and have not found any correlation.

In this issue of EP, Warsaw endocrinologists and surgeons present three "adrenal" papers analysing their clinical material. They showed that among adrenal tumours greater than 5 cm, 25% were adrenal cortical carcinomas, 24% were adenomas, 13% were pheochromocytomas, 10% were metastatic lesions, and the remaining were 15 rarer histopathological diagnoses. The usefulness of laparoscopic adrenalectomy in the treatment of adrenal tumours has also been evaluated; the authors concluded that this procedure is a safe and effective method of treatment of adrenal tumours and that its oncological completeness is satisfactory. It has also been demonstrated that intravenous pancreatic glucocorticosteroid therapy in Graves's orbitopathy does not lead to secondary adrenal failure. However, adrenal failure may develop as a result of subsequent oral therapy.

Other researchers have shown that the incidence of diabetes mellitus and impaired fasting glycaemia in patients with non-functioning adrenal incidentalomas (NFAI) is significantly higher than in the general population. Therefore, it is justified to perform the OGTT in these patients.

Next original paper on neuroendocrinology, presents the adipokine profiles in female patients with anorexia nervosa before and after nutritional intervention. Leptin concentration and free leptin index were the lowest in these patients before treatment, whereas the HMW fraction of adiponectin was elevated.

Last original paper is a study confirming that procalcitonin may be considered as an equivalent alternative to measurements of calcitonin for monitoring patients with medullary thyroid carcinoma. The diagnostic value of CEA and chromogranin A is considerably lower and these parameters may remain within normal limits even in patients with advanced distal metastatic medullary thyroid carcinoma.

Another work worth reading is a review paper on the role of selenium in the pathophysiology of the thyroid gland. It is now believed that selenium, iron, zinc, copper and calcium are also necessary for the proper functioning of the thyroid gland. Often only after providing the adequate supply of one of these micronutrients (iodine, for example), the symptoms of the deficiency of the other micronutrient (for exam-

ple, iron or selenium) may reveal. This review paper presents a summary of current knowledge about the role of selenium in thyroid function.

Current issue of EP contains two interesting case reports. One of them concerns a patient with Addison disease who had low morning levels of ACTH. Significant increase in ACTH was achieved in the insulin-induced hypoglycaemia test, contrary to the CRH stimulation test, which indicates central resistance to CRH. The paper clearly indicates that, apart from CRH, other factors are responsible for stimulating the secretion of ACTH and cortisol in the insulin-induced hypoglycaemia test.

The second case report presents the history of an 80-year-old patient with insulinoma of the pancreas head who due to numerous co-morbidities was disqualified from surgery. In this patient, EUS-guided alcoholic tumour ablation was performed, because the treatment was considered safe and effective in such situations.

In the "Postgraduate Training" section, the properties of metformin, its mechanism of action and clinical effects are discussed in detail, also in the context of its pleiotropic effect.

We encourage you to read our journal and to enjoy the summer time.

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On behalf of the Editorial board
Beata Kos-Kudła