

Introduction I

It is my honor and privilege as the President of the Interamerican Association of Pediatric Otolaryngology (IAPO) to thank all the contributors to the 13th IAPO Manual and thereby supporting IAPO's mission to improve the health and well being of all children in all parts of the world.

Ear, nose and throat disorders in children are a challenge for any health care provider as they cover a wide range of disorders from the simple common cold and otitis media to disorders affecting the aerodigestive system requiring acute intervention and/or multidisciplinary management. The 13th IAPO Manual includes like the previous manuals virtually all aspects of ear, nose and throat disorders in children and is a very valuable tool to assist in our daily practice for all health care providers caring for children. It is also excellent for students at any level.

What is so unique with the IAPO Manual is that it contrary to many other textbooks is published yearly and therefore provides us with the latest state of the art medical and surgical knowledge written by well known authorities in Pediatric Otolaryngology from all over the world.

I also want to take this occasion to express my sincere admiration for my very dear friend and colleague Dr Tania Sih and her team for their dedication and hard work to publish the IAPO Manual every year to provide us with this valuable source of knowledge so we can provide the best care for the children entrusted to our care.

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Introduction II

The XIIIth IAPO's Manual on Pediatric ENT happens because I am lucky enough to have so many friends in the Pediatric ENT community around the globe. In 2012 and 2013, being a speaker in over 15 Medical meetings outside Brazil, in five continents, I have witnessed many excellent presentations. I invited the speakers to contribute to our Manual. Almost never I had a negative reply! Thanks to that, IAPO does a true "scientific community service", due to the fact that the Manuals cannot be sold. They should be given (free of costs) to the members of our Organization - IAPO. Later on, they are displayed in our website (www.iapo.org.br), and our "virtual Pediatric ENT Library" in three languages (Spanish, English and Portuguese) is the most extensive of its kind! We have so many hits (over 1 million downloads) from all over the world! If someone related to medical care, reads our Manuals, for sure will help with updated subjects to treat better their children.

When someone says "a state of the art" it means excellence! I think that this particular Manual is a true commitment to give you, the reader, the most updated and broad knowledge in the area. Over 80 physicians from 12 countries contributed to this Manual. We always divide our Manuals in 5 Sections: a) General considerations; b) Mouth- Head & Neck) Nose & Sinus; d) Ear and e) Hearing & Communication disorders. So, other than specific subjects covering Pediatric ENT we consider that Section A (General Considerations) is also important to broaden the horizons outside ear, nose and throat, as Medical general culture. This is relevant for us to help us in a more holistic approach and management of our little patients. Not too much time left in our busy life, so it is easier and convenient to have new, updated and interesting informations in one book.

Enjoy the reading!

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