

Time of saving or saving of time?

At the end of the summer, the Belgian and international press gave wide coverage to the success of the State Bond, which enabled our country to raise almost 22 billion euros. This operation should strengthen the confidence of the markets in our country, proving in particular that Belgium is capable, thanks to the savings of its citizens, of raising large sums of money to finance its debt. It also demonstrates the wealth of our kingdom while revealing the great disparity in the economic reality of Belgian citizens.

Without going into any further economic considerations, these facts struck us on several levels. They confirm that, as well as having a brick in their belly, Belgians have learned to save, to put aside part of their resources to secure their future or to use them later for other projects. This approach is quite legitimate and we certainly don't want to call it into question. We only wonder how to keep it reasonable and how not to tip over into excessive materialism. As Jean de La Fontaine illustrated in his fable, where is the balance between the cricket and the ant? In the 21st century, in a globalized world increasingly confronted with the limits of its natural resources, what message, what nuances should we give our young people?

Today, money is no longer the only asset. The time we spend together, the moments we have for ourselves or for others have become luxuries that we should perhaps integrate them into our savings approach. Just as we can save money to deal with the unexpected or treat ourselves to something out of the ordinary, why not save time to devote to activities and people that are particularly close to our hearts? Is it also time to save, to protect and safeguard natural resources, biodiversity and a pleasant climate, so that we can benefit from them in the future or simply pass them on to next generations?

Besides qualities such as honesty, tolerance, solidarity, respect, gratefulness, we have a responsibility to learn our young people that "thriftiness" or saving-quality (not only financial or economic but in the broad sense of the word) must be one of the fundamental attitudes needed to be developed during growing-up. Our role as educators, parents and youth professionals is certainly to show them the way in this learning process...

With all these questions in mind, we are delighted to present our autumn issue. Several research articles analyze the consequences of COVID-19 lockdown on paediatric activities and pathologies. N. Loumaye and her colleagues assess the repercussions on the attendance to the pediatric emergency department. A. Devos and her team evaluate its impact in perinatology. M. Tretjakova et al. also report a case of acute neonatal encephalopathy associated to SARS-CoV-2. Also in neonatology, S. Vanbinst and colleagues studied the feasibility and give their conclusions about the use of a low-cost bubble CPAP system in neonatal medium care units. L. De Cloedt and her team report a case of idiopathic purpura fulminans and provide practical guidelines for diagnosis and treatment.

Many case reports are also published in this issue: the history of a child with failure to thrive that revealed a Niemann-Pick type C diagnosis, a Kinsbourne syndrome as complication of a Mycoplasma pneumoniae infection, an idiopathic infantile hypercalcemia, and another history of severe persistent hypocalcemia in a child with vitamin D deficiency. An unusual presentation of Castleman disease with failure to thrive and hypergammaglobulinemia, a rare case of sporadic colorectal adenocarcinoma and a birth related neonatal rib fracture are also described.

After the summer vacations, we are also proud to highlight the summary of 3 PhD thesis that were presented in 2023: Marine Angé from UCLouvain studied the role of alpha 1 AMPK in sepsis capillary leak syndrome and its potential therapeutic repercussions, Dimitri Declercq from Ghent University analyzed the long-term impact of enteral nutrition and the nutritional status in patients with cystic fibrosis, Daan Van Brusselen also from Ghent University investigated the health impact of air and metal pollution on children in North and South.

We hope you will enjoy reading this issue and on behalf of the entire editorial board, we wish you a sweet and fruitful autumn !

Christophe Chantrain and Marc Raes, Editors-in-chief

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



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