

Dear Colleagues,

As the *Journal of Hearing Science* enters its second year, I am pleased to inform you that the journal's subject matter broadens and the team of authors and coworkers continues to grow. JHS has been added to the 'CINAHL Plus with Full Text' database, the world's most comprehensive nursing and allied health research index, and is in the process of evaluation with other databases. In this issue, I recommend two interesting review articles: one by Coppens-Hofman and colleagues on speech intelligibility in adults with Down syndrome, and a review by McDermott on new solutions for high-frequency hearing impairment. Other papers present novel approaches to important audiological and otological problems.



I would like to especially recommend the short report on EU council conclusions concerning early detection and treatment of communication disorders in children. Two of the conclusions concern hearing and speech screening in preschool and school age children, and raise the possibility of using e-health tools and other innovative solutions. Acceptance of this program was an unprecedented event during the Polish presidency of the EU last year. I would like to thank all scientists from audiology, otorhinolaryngology, and related fields for their efforts. It is not often that issues to do with our specialties catch the eye of politicians. I believe this event could mark the beginning of a new era in hearing science.

With kind regards and greetings,  
*Prof. Henryk Skarzynski, M.D., Ph.D., Dr.h.c.*