Dear Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that we present the September 2024 issue of the *Journal of Hearing Science*, which includes some original scientific papers and the abstracts from two conferences.

The issue opens with a hypothesis paper on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots when searching for information about mobile apps in audiology. The role that both AI and mobile apps have in our lives is growing rapidly, as it is in healthcare, but at the same time there is a great need to verify that the underlying technology is trustworthy. Some recent investigations on chatbots in audiology have highlighted problems with accuracy of information [1,2] as well as the high variability of the responses provided [3]. Such problems loom even larger because chatbots usually fail to provide sources of information, and even if specifically asked to provide them will often give incorrect or fabricated sources [4]. Clearly, this whole field needs much more scrutiny before it can be adopted more widely.

Next in the issue is a review paper on regeneration of cochlear hair cell based on stem cell therapy. It reviews a promising areas of auditory research: the potential for stem cell-based therapies to address sensorineural hearing loss. This is followed by a paper on wideband absorbance patterns in cases of tympanic membrane perforation and another on the effectiveness of bilateral fitting of the Adhear bone conduction device.

This issue also includes a conference report about the Hearing Across the Lifespan (HeAL) meeting held in Cernobbio, Lake Como, earlier this year.

Finally, there are abstracts from two highly anticipated conferences in Warsaw – first the 7th International Conference on Hyperacusis and Misophonia, and second the 59th Inner Ear Biology Workshop. Many of us here are looking forward to learning much from these meetings.

With kind regards and greetings,

Prof. Henryk Skarzynski, M.D., Ph.D., Dr. h.c. multi

References

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