

## GROWTH AND MINERALS: ZINC

### MASAYUKI KAJI, MD

Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism  
Shizuoka Children's Hospital  
Shizuoka, Japan

### YOSHIKAZU NISHI, MD

Department of Pediatrics  
Hiroshima Red Cross Hospital  
Hiroshima, Japan

### INTRODUCTION

Zinc (Zn) is well known to be essential for somatic growth of children. Zinc has a close relationship with the endocrine system; it sustains normal growth, secondary sex characteristics, reproductive function and thyroid function. Therefore, Zn deficiency causes not only growth retardation, but also delayed sexual maturation, hypogonadism, and thyroid dysfunction. In this paper, the effects of Zn on childhood growth are presented.

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### From The Editor's Desk

Those of you who have followed this column may be aware of the trials and tribulations of the recent past, as *GGH* faced an uncertain future. But, we are back on track and are delighted to advise you that *GGH* will forge ahead.

This issue brings to an end the era of the long-term sponsorship of *GGH* by Genentech, Inc. They generously supported this educational vehicle since its inception in 1985. On behalf of our readers and Editorial Board I extend our thanks for what they did for the journal. Their support allowed *GGH* to become established and develop into a highly sought-after journal. *Growth, Genetics & Hormones* is read by most pediatric endocrinologists worldwide and other specialists interested in the field of growth.

I am happy to report that we will enjoy an unrestricted educational grant from our new sponsor, INSMED (Glen Allen, Virginia). Thanks to them, we will continue publishing *GGH* as we have done for two decades and you will continue to receive *GGH* on a complementary basis.

While searching for the means to continue *GGH*, I was very motivated by countless colleagues who wrote of the high value they placed on *GGH*; many were willing to pay for a subscription to the journal if needed. I thank all of you who encouraged me, and in this way helped with the task of eliciting funding to serve the educational goals of our colleagues.

The Editorial Board has pledged their time and effort to review the latest advances in the field and grace us with their insightful comments. I am looking forward to a new era of *GGH* and to continue bringing you the most updated reviews and lead articles of interest to the readership. We will continue to enhance the impact of *GGH* and strive to ensure that readers continue to enjoy and treasure it.

Please keep me posted of your needs and recommendations for continuous enhancements. There are multiple journals and other means to stay informed, but none like this journal. Join me in extending your thanks and appreciation to our past sponsor and a heartfelt welcome and thanks to our new sponsor, INSMED, for making this possible.

Respectfully,  
Fima Lifshitz, MD  
FimaLifshitz@GGHjournal.com