

Meyer – Children's Hospital of Haifa



Division of Endocrinology¹

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Sabbatical Leave

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Report of 2008 award: Ze'ev Hochberg

I was awarded the 2008 which enabled to spend my sabbatical leave. The sabbatical started in October 2008 and lasted six months. I spent a research month in Haifa, four months at the Liggins Institute in Auckland, New Zealand, an additional month visiting and lecturing pediatric departments in Brazil, Argentina and Samoa.

I devoted five months to study "Evolutionary Aspects of Child Growth". I spent these months of sabbatical leave discussing it with evolution biologists and epigenetics scientists, designed some experimental work and collaborations with the Liggins scientists, who focus on human evolution and its implication for adaptation and disease. The time was also spent summarizing previous research on the topic, and writing two manuscripts. I lectured at the Liggins, at University of Auckland Department of Pediatrics and at the New Zealand Agresearch Institute, where I started collaboration.

During the last month, I traveled to visit several pediatric endocrine departments in the less developed regions of Brazil and Samoa, where I discussed patients, lectured and conversed about the mission of Global Pediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes GPED, including ways to progress congenital hypothyroidism screening.

I am extremely grateful to ESPE's Sabbatical Leave Program, to E. Lilly Co. for their educational grant, to Peter Gluckman and the scientists of the Liggins Institute, and to all the pediatricians who received me in their departments of Pediatrics and shared with me their experience.

Ze'ev Hochberg