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Special issue on Inborn Errors of Immunity

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EDITORIAL

**Unraveling Inborn Errors of Immunity in
the MENA Region - From Clinical
Heterogeneity to Targeted Diagnostics**

It is with great pleasure that we introduce this special issue of the *Algerian Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*, dedicated to Inborn Errors of Immunity (IEI). IEI represent a major clinical and public health challenge, particularly in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), where the high rates of consanguineous marriages promote the segregation of rare, disease-causing mutations within families, leading to an elevated prevalence of autosomal recessive disorders among the population. Consequently, regional clinicians frequently encounter familial clusters of severe clinical phenotypes that challenge standard diagnostic paradigms, and raise the likelihood of genetic disorders associated with unique genetic variants.

This special issue brings together an exceptional collection of review articles and case reports that highlight the broad clinical and genetic spectrum of IEI, while bridging advances in basic science and clinical practice. Comprehensive reviews of the latest diagnostic and therapeutic developments in Chronic Granulomatous Disease (CGD) and the genetic heterogeneity of Hyper-IgE Syndromes (HIES) provide a framework for recognizing and differentiating these complex disorders. Complementing these reviews, a series of case reports illustrates the remarkable clinical diversity of IEI. These include reports of the wide range of complications of Common

Variable Immunodeficiency (CVID), including a presentation of Macrophage Activation Syndrome (MAS). Furthermore, a case of Late-Onset Combined Immunodeficiency (LOCID) emphasizes that clinical manifestations may remain unrecognized until adulthood. Additional reports describe FINCA syndrome presenting as pediatric interstitial lung disease with immunodeficiency, ITGB2-associated Leukocyte Adhesion Deficiency Type 1 (LAD-1), HIES caused by DOCK8 deficiency, and multifocal tuberculosis as the presenting manifestation of CGD.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all the authors for their outstanding contributions, as well as to the peer reviewers and members of the editorial board whose dedication made this special issue possible. We invite our readers to explore these articles and the valuable insights they provide. By documenting these diverse clinical presentations and their underlying molecular mechanisms, this special issue aims to promote earlier diagnosis, precision medicine, and effective genetic counseling for individuals and families affected by IEI throughout the MENA region.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michel J. Massaad

Faculty of Medicine

American University of Beirut