

# Geleitwort zur 1. Auflage

Paediatric Dermatology is a rapidly developing sub-speciality which is recognized throughout the world. Indeed, there is an International and also a European Society of Paediatric Dermatology, as well as regional and national societies. Skin disease in children, compared to adult dermatology, is very different in many respects: the spectrum of skin disorders has a different emphasis and the approach to managing the child and the family is often challenging. This difference is best highlighted in respect to neonatal skin conditions, developmental disorders of the skin, and genetic diseases which include the practical and ethical aspects of pre-natal diagnosis. Paediatric Dermatology encompasses a wide range of conditions from the very rare diagnoses to the common skin disorders, such as atopic dermatitis, acne and skin infections. An important aspect of skin disease is the recognition that the skin signs may be the first clue of a genetic or systemic condition, which has potentially more serious implications.

In recent years there has been a significant advance in our knowledge and understanding of basic skin biology and the

pathogenesis of many conditions, in particular the molecular genetics of a large number of inherited diseases, such as epidermolysis bullosa and the ichthyoses.

This book by Peter Hoeger reflects the fact that he is both a paediatrician and a dermatologist, and presents a very balanced and up-to-date review of the subject. The approach is clinically orientated and user-friendly for diagnosis and treatment, especially the flow sheets and tables of differential diagnosis. It is remarkably comprehensive, informative and well illustrated. The format is easy to read and excellent for teaching.

The author must be congratulated on producing such an excellent practical book which will undoubtedly be widely used by paediatricians, dermatologists and other health workers involved in the care of children.

John Harper †  
Professor of Paediatric Dermatology  
Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, London