Preface

Advances in Pediatric Liver Diseases

It is truly remarkable the progress that has been made in the past few years surrounding the diagnosis, management, and treatment of so many of the liver diseases affecting children. Advances in genetic testing have recognized many previously unknown hereditary disorders. Along with this recognition has come a better understanding of the mechanism of disease and of whether potential new therapies will likely alleviate the symptoms associated with the disorder. Who could have imagined that there are now cures for children with hepatitis C infection? Or drugs to alleviate the severe itching in childhood cholestasis associated with Alagille syndrome and progressive familial intrahepatic cholestasis? The articles in this issue of Clinics in Liver Disease focusing on Pediatric Liver Disease are up-to-date and written by experts in the field. I hope you will enjoy reading and learning about these advances as much as I have. A huge thank you to the authors for their contributions and to the publisher and Consulting Editor Dr Gitlin for making this pediatric issue possible.

Philip Rosenthal, MD
Departments of Pediatrics & Surgery
University of California, San Francisco
Benioff Children’s Hospital
550 16th Street
Mailcode 0136
San Francisco, CA 94143-0136, USA

E-mail address:
prosenth@ucsf.edu