F O R E W O R D

This supplement of Acta Biomedica collects the Proceedings of the meeting on Exogenous surfactant therapy, held in Parma on 20/21 July 2012. The structure of the issue accurately reflects the organization of the two-day conference, with a first section on "Starting points", a second on use of the Exogenous surfactant in Neonatology and the third on the most recent Clinical Perspectives in Children and Adults.

Perhaps for the first time neonatologic, pediatric and adult intensivists meet together to find the best solutions through international literature and their own clinical experience. The ventilatory approach of critically ill patients (infant, child, adult) and the optimization of the use of exogenous surfactant in the prevention and therapy of lung injury, were the goals of the meeting.

With the hope that this Supplement can arouse your interest and above all support you in everyday clinical practice, we wish you all good reading.

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