

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

In No. 7 this year we announced a new section, *Reviews*, and here we publish the first review prepared by A. N. Erin, N. V. Gulyaeva, and E. V. Nikushkin and entitled *Free-Radical Mechanisms in Cerebral Abnormalities*. This particular topic has been selected for good reasons. May I remind you that the world medical community has decided to devote the last decade of the twentieth century to brain research, and that Russian science has made a sizable contribution to the study of brain processes involving free radicals. Our researchers have demonstrated the great importance of free-radical reactions in the pathogenesis of various brain abnormalities and have proposed novel pharmacological approaches to their management relying on the use of antioxidants. Note also that it was in Russia that a theory of free-radical reactions was developed by N. N. Semenov, for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize. It is natural, therefore, that credit for many of the insights into free-radical mechanisms considered in this review is due to Russian scientists.

**D. S. SARKISOV,
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**