

# PREFACE

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Few segments of Clinical Medicine have progressed as rapidly as the field of obesity and related metabolic disorders in recent years. This is clearly reflected in the large number of papers published in this field in the world literature. The world of obesity research comes together once every four years on the occasion of the International Congress of Obesity (ICO) under the aegis of the International Association for the Study of Obesity. São Paulo, Brazil, is the site of the 9th congress.

This Supplement of the International Journal of Obesity contains the abstracts of all invited and accepted papers to be delivered at the 9th ICO. These abstracts relate to Plenary Lectures, Symposia, Tutorials, Meet-the-Professor sessions, Debates, Free Oral Paper sessions and Poster presentations. The ICO program is organized around seven Tracks, each defining an area of research, prevention or treatment. These Tracks are defined as follows:

Track 1: Adipose Tissue Biology  
Track 2: Genetics of Obesity  
Track 3: Prevention, Behavioral Aspects and Childhood Obesity

Track 4: Epidemiology and Health Implications  
Track 5: Regulation of Energy Balance  
Track 6: Management and Treatment  
Track 7: Continuing Medical Education

You will find in the Supplement the list of the International Scientific Committee members, including the Track Advisors, who have been instrumental in the development of the exciting scientific program of the congress. The abstracts for each of the 169 sessions of the program are provided in their order of scheduling. You can also consult the author index to find a specific abstract that you may be interested in.

Please note that one person could not submit more than one abstract as a first author in the free paper category. We hope that the publication will be helpful to you as a congress participant.

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