

CIRCUMPOLAR HEALTH: RISKS, PREVENTION AND CARE

The scope of circumpolar health in the context of this Journal is broad, covering subjects ranging from risk factors to treatment, medication and care. In all papers submitted for publication, the Journal seeks both a special circumpolar orientation, and a contribution of valuable scientific information to the existing literature. In this issue we offer a collection of articles reporting three contamination studies from O'Hara et al., Carpenter et al. and Milman et al., and an article by Paasivaara et al. concerning health-care co-operation in sparsely populated areas. In this issue there are also articles focusing on behaviour, nutrition, the role of genetic origin as a risk factor, or as an associated factor, and prevention practices.

Professor Ebbeson's collection of four articles is introduced by a special editorial. The wholeness of these articles is a good example of an international research

collaboration in the North. The Journal has been asked to serve as a publishing forum for some other international northern projects as well. In the future, the journal will publish, as a supplement collection, an increasingly larger number of papers united in the context of selected themes.

During its annual meeting in June, the International Association of Circumpolar Publishers (IACHP), owner of the IJCH, accepted the International Network for Circumpolar Health Research (INCHR) and the University of Tromsø as new full members of the association. Furthermore, the Komi Branch of Kirov State Medical Academy and the Health Research Board in Greenland were accepted as contributing members of the association. These manoeuvres are expected to contribute to the improvement of the Journal's scientific background.

Juhani Hassi
Editor-in-Chief