

## EDITORIAL

### Public health: the science of promoting health

P.D. Gatseva · M. Argirova 205

## ORIGINAL ARTICLES

### Identification and comparison of chromosomal alterations in infertile and fertile males of Tamil Nadu region exposed to cigarette smoking

V. Balachandar · A. Karthick Kumar · M. Arun · S. Mohanadevi · P. Velmurugan · P. Manikantan · S. Sudha · K. Sasikala 207

### Relevance of age-related growth references: variations in body measurements among girls in relation to their menarche status

A.-M. Bau · A.S. Rosario · S. Wiegand · P. Martus · L. Schenk 215

### Influence of central obesity on clustering of metabolic syndrome risk variables among normal-weight adults in a low-income rural Chinese population

S. Fu · Z. Xiang · Y. Zhao · L. Ling · C. Wang · J. Xu · J. Zhao 223

### A 9-year study of shigellosis in Northeast Malaysia: Antimicrobial susceptibility and shifting species dominance

K.-K. Banga Singh · S.C. Ojha · Z.Z. Deris · R.A. Rahman 231

### Results from the National Strategy for Improvement of Iodine Nutrition in Bulgaria. A study of children and pregnant women living in an iodine-deficient area

P.D. Gatseva · A.V. Bivolarska · M.D. Argirova 237

### The influence of physical activity on the bone mass through the bone metabolism in premenopausal adult Japanese women

F. Omasu · Y. Seki · S. Hashiguchi · S. Hashiguchi · K. Yamakami · Y. Sakurai · Y. Nakahara 241

### Community pharmacists' perspectives on generic substitution in Japan

E. Kobayashi · N. Satoh · S. Ueda 249

### Unemployment and health in the German population: results from a 2005 microcensus

A. Holleder 257

### Health-related quality of life of family caregivers—Evidence from Hesse

B. Rösler-Schidlack · H. Stummer · H. Ostermann 269