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KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PAEDIATRIC AUXOLOGY IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

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Making growth diagnosis is an essential skill that every paediatrician should be familiar with. The most effective method is graphical evaluation of measured anthropometric data with the help of appropriate growth charts or using special computer software which constructs the growth curves. Development of visual and computerized diagnostic support tools should be based on solid foundation. In Czech Republic, this foundation is represented by the Knowledge Base of Paediatric Auxology, a collection of definitions of anthropometric / auxological variables, recent reference data and extensive hypertext description of methods of measurement, assessment and interpretation of the data. This knowledge base was published on CD ROM as Compendium of Paediatric Auxology. Its growth charts are included in the new edition of the Health and Vaccination Record, distributed in 90 000 copies per year - to every newborn in Czech Republic. At present, we prepare a new edition of the Knowledge Base of Paediatric Auxology: the computer software Growth 2002. This computer software presents the data of the patient on a single page together with the appropriate text-based medical information, conditionally formatted according to the measured data. This context-dependent intelligent formatting should help the paediatrician to assess the presented information and to produce valid growth diagnosis in a most efficient way. Supported by Grant No. 7409-3 of Grant Agency IGA MZ 2003.