ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I take this opportunity to express my profound sense of gratitude to my esteemed teacher and guide, Dr. A.S. Saini, M.B., B.S., M.Sc., Ph.D., Professor and Head, Department of Biochemistry, Medical College, Rohtak, who, notwithstanding gross inconvenience, has briefed me about the minute details of the present work. It has been my privilege to work under him and his painstaking efforts, constructive criticism and affectionate encouragement paved the way for the successful completion of this manuscript. In fact, this work is an embodiment of his precision and scholastic pursuits.

With utmost sense of regards, I express my indebtedness to my co-supervisor Dr. Harjit Singh, M.D., M.A.M.S., Professor and Head, Department of Paediatrics, Medical College, Rohtak, for his guidance, keen interest, modest help and ever encouraging attitude for the completion of this study.

I am grateful to Dr. H.C. Mehta, Reader in Biochemistry for critically going through the manuscript and Mr. R.K. Seth, Lecturer in Biochemistry for his ever-ready help, timely advice in every aspect of this work and constant encouragement, which had immense value to me.

I express my sincere thanks to my friends Dr. A.D. Tiwari, Lecturer in Paediatrics and Dr. A.K. Grover in the department of Paediatrics for their valuable cooperation.

The cooperation extended by my colleagues, especially Mr. R.K. Nagpal and Vijay Shaker, in the Department of Biochemistry, is duly acknowledged. I am also thankful to Mr. Ram Nivas and Mr. Ashok Kumar, Lab. Technicians for their technical assistance.

The cooperation extended by my family members has been too great to be expressed in words.

(Surinder Kumar Aggarwal)