ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author makes grateful acknowledgement of his indebtedness to Prof. C. V. Ramakrishnan for guidance in the conduct of research, and presentation and interpretation of the data.

These investigations formed a part of the long range project supported by the University Grants Commission of India under their Special Assistance Programme. Studies on 3H-inositol incorporation and Epidermal Growth Factor binding were carried out in the Department of Pediatrics, Section of perinatal and nutritional sciences, University Medical Center, Tucson, Arizona 85724 USA under the guidance of Prof. O. Koldovsky, M.D., Ph.D. and Dr. W. Thornburg. The author acknowledges his indebtedness to Prof. O. Koldovsky for enabling him to visit his laboratory by offering a fellowship, and giving suggestions on the presentation and interpretation of the data in this thesis.

The author is also thankful to Dr. John Britton for giving suggestions on the presentation and interpretation of data; Ruby Stines for expert clerical assistance; and all his colleagues in the department for their help during the course of his research work.