



# Nigerian Journal of **DERMATOLOGY**



## INFORMATION TO CONTRIBUTORS AND READERS

**N**IGERIAN Journal of Dermatologists, NJD, is a forum for communication of research results and policy issues in the health sciences especially as related to dermatology and allied sciences, Plastic Surgery, Venereology, Pathology, Anatomy, Physiology and Biochemistry.

The journal is dedicated to serving primarily scientists in Africa and other developing countries outside the continent who seek a medium for publishing their research findings. Since science is global, articles would be welcome from every geographical location across the world.

There are pressing and specific problems related to Africa and to people of coloured skin. Ainhum, acne keloidalis are examples of two of a long list of cutaneous diseases peculiar to the sub region and waiting for research by the basic sciences; gratifying modalities of treatment are equally awaited.

The editorial board will therefore give priority to the development and promotion of such cutaneous health issues.

**Frequency of publication:** Quarterly.

**Content format:** Each issue will contain essentially the following sections, with variants where necessary:

- i. A short editorial statement on policy issues not more than two thousand words, placed not necessarily on the first page.
- ii. A short review (not more than five thousand words) titled "Perspective" on a current topical issue in Dermatology.
- iii. One or two review articles by invitation or on application.
- iv. Peer reviewed articles by invitation or on application.
- v. Letters to the editor.
- vi. News about, and on, African health and related matters.

**Research papers** should be composed of the following in that order, clearly typed in double space:

- i. Title, which should be short and specific.
- ii. Full names of all the authors, qualifications and affiliations of each, and full address of each author. (Qualifications of authors are only required for purposes of Editor's use and not for publication).
- iii. Name and address of the corresponding author and his/her phone/fax numbers (home & office).
- iv. Sources of financial support, if any.
- v. Summary of not more than 200 words as well as three to four key words.
- vi. Introduction.
- vii. Materials and methods.
- viii. Results.
- ix. Discussion
- x. Conclusion
- xi. Acknowledgments — placed immediately after the next, and before the references
- xii. Citations and references will be arranged according to the Vancouver Style:

### A. Citation of Periodicals

Kofi-Tsekpo WM and Karekezi CW. Detectability and measurability of amoscinate in plasma by TLC and HPLC. *Drugs under Experimental and Clinical Research*. 1988; 14: 31-37.

Watkins WM, Howells RE, Brandling-Bennet AD and Koech DK. In vitro susceptibility of Plasmodium falciparum isolates from Jilore, Kenya to antimalarial drugs. *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*. 1987; 37: 445-451.

### B. Citation of Books

Ole Fijerskov, Firoze Manji and Vibeke Baellum, eds. *Dental fluorosis Handbook for health workers*. Copenhagen: Munksgaard, 1988 p.

### C. Citation of Chapters in books

Same as (B) above.

### D. References

in the body of text should be in chronological order and identified by roman numerals in brackets: e.g. Specific point mutations in ..... naturally resistant laboratory isolates of P. Falciparum [4, 5]



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### E. Figures

Figure legends and tables should be professionally done. Tables/ charts should be in black and white - 100 mm (minimum) and 175 mm (maximum). Colored pictures may be submitted. This may be published this way or in gray scale depending on funds and the nature of the picture.

### F. Short Communications

This should possess all the elements of scientific communication as research papers, but without abstracts and subheadings and with not more than 500 words and 5 references.

### G. Submission of paper to the Journal

Anyone who submits a paper for publication must provide the following:

- i. A letter of submission electronically.
- ii. Manuscript created using a word-processing program in PC format is encouraged. This is submitted electronically. Two hard copies of the peer reviewed, corrected manuscript will be sent over by the corresponding author to the editorial

assistant, Regina Faleye MS, at the editorial office in the Department of Medicine, University College Hospital, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria

- iii. Written permission from authors whose copyright material has been used in the manuscript.
- iv. Informed consent from authors whose photographs have been used.
- v. Copyright statement as follows:

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- vi. A letter of acceptance will be sent once the above stages have been complied with. ■



GEORGE, AO

# Editor's Comments

**G**ETTING this edition of the Nigerian Journal of Dermatology out has been a great challenge. The basic ingredients for getting a journal established - manuscripts - have been in very short supply. I was actually at the point of giving up, I had gone into the 'sleep mode'. I need to thank my assistant editor and current N.A.D president, Dr. Bola Ogunbiyi, who woke me up from this state and who with N.A.D general secretary, Dr Ayesha Akinkugbe helped to break the inertia and helped to get information that could be used to get a journal out.

I need to reiterate what I had written in a past edition, hoping that this ageless advice will encourage many of our members and others in the West African sub-region to share their experiences through writing. This ageless advice contained in the editorial comment of the West African Journal of Medicine, January 1982 edition, goes thus:

"..Very few of us are so opportune to have the support of modern equipment and laboratories. Should we therefore fold our hands and excuse ourselves for lack of these first-class facilities? The history of discoveries and breakthroughs in medicine clearly belies the need for availability of up-to-date scientific equipment before original observations and research can be performed. Prof. A. Ngu did not require more than syringes, needles and a microscope to disprove that *filariasis* was the commonest of *lymphoedema* of the lower limbs in the Nigerian. All he needed was an original thought and the effort. Burkett did not require the electron microscope to eventually give his name to the commonest childhood lymphoma in the African child.

The local general practitioners hardly contribute to local medical journal. Many claim to be too

busy to have time to collate their records for publications. Yet, few can claim to be busier than Edward Jenner.

The academic clinicians are often too easily satisfied with 'retrospective reviews' solely for the purpose of scoring enough publications for promotions. Many of such articles sacrifice excellence for expediency... Yet there is no lack of suitable subjects for sound clinical investigative research with the simplest possible equipment. There is no evidence of innovative, inventiveness or adaptation of our poor laboratory facilities. But we do have many amongst us with first-class brains. All we need to do is to stop a while, think of our patients, our environment and ourselves; think of our daily professional problems and try to find solutions to them. This way, fresh ideas and original thoughts may occur. Indeed, we can make a breakthrough in research in seemingly common garden medical problems of our environment."

Nigerian Journal of Dermatologists thus seeks to encourage contributions that will truly meet the challenges and needs in the sub-region. A section will be created in subsequent editions - to be daubed '*Down to Earth*' - to highlight such innovations.

The 7<sup>th</sup> conference of Nigerian Association of Dermatologists (N.A.D) will hold in Port Harcourt 'The Garden City,' in River State, Nigeria. The theme of the conference is "*Quality of Life in Dermatology practice*" and the sub-theme is "*Occupational skin diseases in the Oil industry*".

'Kunle George