



EDITORIAL

The Year 2020!

The year 2020 started inauspiciously enough but it quickly snowballed into a year that most of us living have never experienced before. The Coronavirus-19 (later named Covid-19 by the World Health Organization) issue in China became a public health emergency and soon after transformed into a pandemic that is taking so many lives, infecting thousands of people and crippling the global economy. Social distancing, cough etiquette, face masks and sanitizers are our current realities.

I must say that Africa has been somewhat blessed. I say this somewhat with my tongue in my cheek because while I am hoping and praying that the levels do not become as bad as the rest of the world is predicting for us, I cannot say with any degree of certainty that it won't. While some African countries like South Africa and Ghana have deployed Covid-19 testing on a large scale, many countries, Nigeria inclusive have not. Thus, the values we have are indeed a function of the tests we are able to carry out. For good or bad, Covid-19 has brought out the stark reality of the state of development of our health infrastructure. I hope we will not wait as a nation for a Covid-19-like pandemic to bring the reality of the state of development of our education sector out as well. While most of the cases are said to be mild to moderate and thus, we may not have widespread need for ICU-beds and ventilators, it is shameful to note that we cannot boast of a thousand ventilators as a country. It is equally shameful some utterances of some of our politicians. I cannot leave the Covid-19 issue without acknowledging the efforts of our front-line officers across the globe; pharmacists, physicians, nurses, laboratory scientists, ambulance drivers, epidemiologists, to mention a few. The successes recorded so far has been because you stepped up to be counted, to do your bit, to bring to the table your expertise. God bless all your efforts bountifully.

Although a trying year, there have been some nice outcomes because of this global pandemic. Organizations, institutions and various levels of facilities have made access to their resources freely available to enable everyone interested to gain knowledge, improve their skills, learn new things and generally improve themselves. Someone said (and I agree), that if after the lockdown is over, you have not learnt anything new, you never had a time problem before, you had an excuses problem. So, let's not prove me right. Learn, improve, share or teach. Do something different in this period that will stay with you after. The effect of this for us as a journal is that we expect more

articles to bombard us because most of us have more time on our hands than we used to and you have access to more resources to help you get it done well.

Please visit our website regularly to share your blogs or respond to blogs written by others.

As this is the first edition of the new year, this is our opportunity to appreciate the great people that helped us in the peer-review process for the year 2019. Without the sacrifice of their time and effort, we cannot publish articles that will be good enough for researchers, scientists, healthcare professionals and others that come to our site for them to use. We are grateful to you and be assured that we operate the maxim that “the reward of good work is more work” so we will call on you again. We appreciate that everyone is busy so we do not take your support for granted. We promise on our own part not to waste your time with substandard articles.

I plan to always end my editorial by calling out colleagues in patient-facing practice areas, community and hospital, to make time out to publish practice-oriented articles that will provide us with useful and useable data for future planning, forecasting and interventions. The pandemic before us has called up a number of research areas that we may not have been thinking about before. Let’s get to it. Remember, we are waiting to receive your manuscripts for consideration.

Thank you and have a great day.

SIGNED

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Arinola Joda FPSN, FPCPharm

Associate Professor

E-mail: info.jbspr@gmail.com, info.jbspr@unilag.edu.ng

ORCID ID: 0000-0002-6991-763X