

# Editor's choice: Covid-19 and HIV are still very much with us

James K Tumwine

Editor in Chief, African Health Sciences.

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Infections continue plaguing our continent and overwhelming the fragile health systems. That is why we continue publishing large numbers of papers on this subject. Clearly there is need to have a re-look at this, since non communicable diseases also have reached silent and overt epidemic levels. It is with is in mind that we have a very interesting menu of papers in this June 2023 issue of African Health Sciences. Thus COVID-19 contributes six papers<sup>1-6</sup>, as has HIV<sup>7-12</sup>. Tuberculosis<sup>1-15</sup>, on the other hand, remains an important infection as are hepatitis<sup>16-17</sup>, Human papilloma virus<sup>18</sup>, pneumococcal disease<sup>19</sup> and others<sup>20-26</sup>.

Putting infections aside we have other interesting papers. First cancer<sup>27-35</sup>. The cancer papers touch on cervical cancer<sup>27</sup>, ovarian tumors<sup>28</sup>, hematological malignancy; others<sup>29-35</sup>; and surgery<sup>36-49</sup>. These are followed by ocular conditions<sup>50-54</sup>. The next group has diabetes mellitus<sup>55-58</sup>; and cardiovascular disease<sup>59-62</sup>. Obesity and physical inactivity<sup>63-64</sup> come in light of recent allegations that the science inherent in body mass index (BMI) is racist.

The next NCDs are on Parkinson's disease<sup>65</sup>, NCD knowledge<sup>66</sup> and others<sup>67-69</sup>. The next section deals with sexual and reproductive health issues: late antenatal booking in Tanzania<sup>70</sup>, pregnancy outcome of in vitro fertilization<sup>71</sup>; caesarian section births<sup>72-73</sup>.

Assisted reproductive health services<sup>74</sup> and men's health issues<sup>75</sup> conclude this section. The next section reflects child health issues<sup>76-82</sup>. The treatise continues with teaching and artificial intelligence<sup>83-85</sup>; and job satisfaction among rehabilitation staff<sup>86</sup>. Finally we appeal to our stakeholders to be patient as we strive to clear the backlog of papers that accumulated during the Covid-19 pandemic.

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