



## FOREWORD

Scientific communication through publications is a pivotal element of the scientific endeavour. Science seeks to advance knowledge and extend the frontiers of human development through discovery and application of natural laws as aspects of universal Reality and Truth. Medicine is at the intersection of science and arts. While science provides the evidence supporting assessments, diagnosis, prediction, prognosis, prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and care; humanities provide the bases for the relationships, the ethics, ethos, values system, the purpose and philosophy of medicine. Academic journals are the fora for intergenerational, international, interdisciplinary communication and crosspollination of ideas, discoveries, hypotheses, theories, questions, methods, and indeed solutions by scientists for scientists and for the world.

Advancements in medicine are occurring at a dizzying speed with information explosion. Old methods and treatments are fast becoming obsolete, rapidly replaced by better interventions driven by precision medicine, artificial intelligence and other emerging fields some of which holds the promise for accurate prediction and cure for chronic diseases. Therefore, scientific communication is a critical element of the medical curriculum.

Massive kudos to the pioneers, who envisioned the **DOKITA** journal, the first medical students journal in Sub-Saharan African to fulfil this key aspect of the medical curriculum. To stimulate scientific inquisitiveness among students and teach them the arts of scientific expression, as arts is about expression. Hearty congratulations also to the successful and successive leadership of the journal which has sustained the vision up till the 64th year.

I urge you to digest the 41st edition, a general edition which introduces diverse topics including women health (breast cancer, gestational diabetes mellitus, hormonal contraceptives, abortion, gender-based violence), mental health (autism, electroconvulsive therapy, transcranial magnetic stimulation, mental health of health-workers), and others (hyperinflation, vaccine theory and alphabetical romanticism).

The edition also has a short history of **DOKITA** evolving silently from a magazine 64 years ago. Let the **DOKITA** story continue loudly to illuminate brightly the paths of medical students learning the arts and science of healing.



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