

CONNECTING BASIC ORTHOPAEDIC SCIENCE WITH PRACTICE

Welcome to the first issue of the *East African Orthopaedic Journal* in 2019. This journal has come of age, consistently publishing two issues annually in the last thirteen years, from its inception in 2007 to date. This open access journal continues to receive and publish cutting edge articles in orthopaedic science and practice within this region. This journal is currently indexed by google scholar and AJOL. The journal is currently fast seeking further indices such as PubMed and DOAJ. The readers feedback has been extremely positive. Reader and author feedback continue to help guide and refine the *East African Orthopaedic Journal*.

Orthopaedic surgery is both an art and a science. In my opinion the art of surgery is emphasized more than the science of it in the clinical setting. I am convinced that it is a mistake to view a patient's diagnosis and treatment solely from the perspective of the art of surgery. It is essential that our orthopaedic surgeons remain current with the latest scientific information and concepts in basic research. To this end, in the current issue, the journal focusses on the role of basic science in orthopaedic practice. In this issue Muteti and El Badawi (1,2) re-evaluate the sizes of the thoracic spine pedicles using both 2D CT scan and Vernier calipers, providing comparable results from a local population which can inform clinicians pedicle screw selection and angulation in thoracic spine posterior instrumentation. Lusweti *et al* (3), provide local data on the landmarks of the radial nerve in a Kenyan sample, relevant in open reduction plate osteosynthesis.

With growing research, the *East African Orthopaedic Journal* can be instrumental in connecting orthopaedic basic science to orthopaedic clinical medicine. With the increasing number of trained orthopaedic surgeons and residents, it is anticipated that the number of high-quality submissions in basic science will increase, necessitating the increase in the number of issues of this journal. *East African Orthopaedic Journal* appreciates the articles and all the highlighted issues as they speak to surgeons and residents.

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