

## THE IFEMED REPORT

The journal year commenced after Dr Grace Ihimekpen and her team handed over the baton to Tobiloba Apampa and other newly elected executives following the successful launch of the DEPRESSION journal.

The recruitment of new members soon followed. Each candidate was subjected to a two-staged interview process comprising written and oral interviews. Consequently, members from preclinical one through clinical two were selected. An orientation meeting was held to familiarise the new members with the rules and regulations guiding the Journal Club.

In true IFEMED JC fashion, we hosted our annual research writing seminar, facilitated by our esteemed consultant, Dr. F.O. Wuraola, from the department of Surgery.

The Journal theme for the year was chosen to be CRITICAL CARE following consultation with Dr. Oriade Adeoye, a Clinical Assistant professor at Indiana University School of Medicine and a previous Editor-in-Chief of the Club between 2006-2007. The choice of this theme stemmed from the need to address an area of care sorely lacking in much needed infrastructure. Although preventive medicine remains the backbone of health services, all aspects of healthcare are equally as important hence the need to explore the common conditions requiring critical care in this environment.

Each topic under this theme was approved by the supervising editorial consultant, Prof. F.A Faponle of the Department of Anaesthesia, OAUTHC. All papers were co-authored by club members and supervised by a consultant in the given fields.

In addition to the Journal launch, a major highlight of the Journal year was the organisation of the Professor Olikoye Ransome-Kuti Memorial Lecture and National Essay Writing Competition. The theme for the essay competition was determined to be ALMA ATA 41 YEARS LATER: THE NIGERIAN STORY. A call for submissions was sent to all medical schools in Nigeria. Over 150 submissions were received from all geo-political zones of the country.

Although both events were scheduled to hold in 2020, the infamous COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent nationwide lockdown together with the closure of tertiary institutions during the ASUU strike effectively ruled out the entire year.

Despite the halt in the academic calendar, the club members remained resilient and adaptable to the times. We continued to roll out academic/research related facts and essays on our social media channels and through our blog, Campus Doctor. During this time, the Club's Twitter following grew from less than 100 to 390.

The executive team also invited Dr Rotimi Oduloju, a beloved former Editor-in-Chief of the club, for a virtual meeting with the team. It proved an enlightening and encouraging session.

Upon resumption in 2021 and as a result of existing COVID-19 restrictions at the time, the bold decision was made to organise a virtual event featuring Dr Hadiza Balarabe, the Deputy Governor of Kaduna State as Keynote Speaker for the Professor Olikoye Ransome-Kuti Memorial Lecture on the theme, "The Role Of The Government And Political Systems In Strengthening Primary Health Care". The Keynote Speaker for the Journal launch was chosen to be Major General (Dr.) Obashina Ogunbiyi, the President of the Critical Care Society of Nigeria. The announcement of the winners of the essay competition was also scheduled for the virtual event.

The entire Journal Club is grateful to all her alumni and non-alumni supporters who served as pillars all through the journal year and ensured the successful attainment of the objectives of the year.

### **Joelyn Ndife**

Board Secretary.