



INFORMATION TO CONTRIBUTORS AND READERS

NIGERIAN Journal of Dermatologists (NJD) is a medium for communication of research results and policy issues in the health sciences especially as related to dermatology and allied sciences - plastic surgery, venereology, pathology, anatomy, physiology and Biochemistry.

The journal is dedicated to serving primarily scientists in Africa and other developing countries outside the continent who seek a medium for publishing their research findings. Since science is global, articles would be welcome from every geographical location across the world.

There are pressing and specific problems related to Africa and to people of coloured skin. Ainhum, acne keloidalis are examples of two of a long list of cutaneous diseases peculiar to the sub region and waiting for research by the basic sciences; gratifying modalities of treatment are equally awaited.

The editorial board will therefore give priority to the development and promotion of such cutaneous health issues.

Frequency of publication: Quarterly.

Departments & Sections: Each issue will contain essentially the following sections, with variants where necessary:

- i. A short editorial statement on policy issues - not more than two thousand words, placed not necessarily on the first page.
- ii. A short review (not more than five thousand words) titled "Perspective" on a current topical issue in dermatology.
- iii. One or two review articles by invitation or on application.
- iv. Peer reviewed articles by invitation or on application.
- v. Letters to the editor.
- vi. News - about, and on, African health and related matters.

Research papers should be composed of the following in that order, clearly typed in double space:

- i. Title, which should be short and specific.
- ii. Full names of all the authors, qualifications and affiliations of each, and full address of each author. (Qualifications of authors are only required for

purposes of Editor's use and not for publication).

- iii. Name and address of the corresponding author and his/her phone/fax numbers (home & office).
- iv. Sources of financial support, if any.
- v. Summary of not more than 200 words as well as three to four key words.
- vi. Introduction.
- vii. Materials and methods.
- viii. Results.
- ix. Discussion
- x. Conclusion
- xi. Acknowledgements - placed immediately after the next, and before the references
- xii. Citations and references will be arranged according to the Vancouver Style:

A. Citation of Periodicals

Kofi-Tsekpo WM and Karekezi CW. Detectability and measurability of amoscanate in plasma by TLC and HPLC. *Drugs under Experimental and Clinical Research*. 1988; 14: 31-37.

Watkins WM, Howells RE, Brandling-Bennet AD and Koech DK. In vitro susceptibility of Plasmodium falciparum isolates from Jilore, Kenya to antimalarial drugs. *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*. 1987; 37: 445-451.

B. Citation of Books

Ole Fijerskov, Firoze Manji and Vibeke Baellum, eds. Dental fluorosis - Handbook for health workers. Copenhagen: Munksgaard, 1988 p.

C. Citation of Chapters in books: Same as (B) above.

D. References in the body of text should be in chronological order and identified by roman numerals in brackets: e.g. Specific point mutations in naturally resistant laboratory isolates of *P. falciparum* [4, 5]

E. Figures: Figure legends and tables should be professionally done. Tables/charts should be in black and white - 100mm (minimum) and 175mm (maximum). Coloured pictures may be submitted. This may be published this way or in gray scale depending on funds and the nature of the picture.

F. Short Communications

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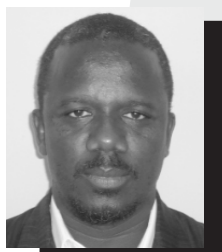
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Information to Readers & Contributors

This should possess all the elements of scientific communication as research papers, but without abstracts and subheadings and with not more than 500 words and 5 references.

G. Submission of paper to the Journal

Anyone who submits a paper for publication must provide the following:

- A letter of submission electronically.
- Manuscript created using a word-processing program in PC format is encouraged. This is to be submitted electronically. Two hard copies of the peer reviewed, corrected manuscript will be sent over by the corresponding author to the editorial assistant, Regina Faley MS, at the editorial office in the Department of Medicine, University College Hospital, Ibadan, Oyo

State, Nigeria.

- Written permission from authors whose copyright material has been used in the manuscript.
- Informed consent from authors whose photographs have been used.
- Copyright statement as follows:

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Editor's Comments



GEORGE, AO

remain ever grateful for the inspiration from the editorial comment of the West African Journal of Medicine - January 1982 edition. The editor wrote thus:

"...Very few of us are so opportune to have the support of modern equipments and laboratories. Should we therefore fold our hands and excuse ourselves for lack of these first class facilities? The history of discoveries and breakthroughs in Medicine clearly belies the need for availability of up-to-date scientific equipment before original observations and research can be performed. Prof A Ngu did not require more than syringes, needles and a microscope to disprove that filariasis was the commonest of lymphoedema of the lower limbs in the Nigerian. All he needed was original thought and the effort. Burkett did not require the electron microscope to eventually give his name to the commonest childhood lymphoma in the African child.

The local General practitioners hardly contribute to local medical journal. Many claim to be too busy to have time to collate their records for publications. Yet few can claim to be busier than Edward Jenner.

The academic clinicians are often too easily satisfied with 'retrospective reviews' solely for the purpose of scoring enough publications for promotions. Many of such articles sacrifice excellence for expediency... Yet there is no lack of suitable subjects for sound clinical investigative research with the simplest possible equipment. There is no evidence of innovative, inventiveness or adaptation of our poor laboratory facilities. But we do have many amongst us with first class brains. All we need to do is to stop a while, think of our patients, our environment and ourselves; think of our daily professional problems and try to find solutions to them. This way, fresh ideas and original thoughts may occur. Indeed, we can make breakthrough in research in seemingly

common garden medical problems of our environment."

Nigerian Journal of Dermatologists thus seeks to encourage contributions that will truly meet the challenges and needs in the sub region. A section will be created in subsequent editions to be daubed 'Down to Earth' - to highlight such innovations.

The sub-theme for the fifth Annual National Conference of Nigerian Association of Dermatologists slated for June 2011 is 'Re-emerging Microbial Skin Conditions' - with leprosy being one of the diseases to be considered.

Permission has been given to publish a well-researched article on Leprosy by John R Trautman, MD, US Public Health Service, Gillis W Long Hansen's Disease Center, Carville, LA. He had given me permission as far back as nine years ago before the conception of this journal!

This maiden edition has also focused on the documented research of the missionary/dermatologist and leprologist, Dr Browne, who spent a great portion of his life conducting research on leprosy in Africa and in particular in Nigeria. The progress made in the research on leprosy to date will be addressed at the June conference in Kano and in a subsequent edition of this journal. An attempt has been made to collate abstracts of papers presented at the past scientific meetings. Some of the longer abstracts have been further shortened in this journal because of the constraint on space.

Nigerian Association of Dermatologists has tried to establish a scientific journal for years. This maiden edition is the physical evidence of our aspirations. Members of the editorial board have been very helpful. I also wish to thank others who have been approached to help review articles at short notices. We hope once the inertia is overcome the Journal will become a regular machinery for meeting an aspect of the scientific community's need regarding information.