

## **Editorial**

Although this is the first issue of the Nigerian Journal of Medical Rehabilitation since the re-constitution of the Editorial Board and my appointment as Editor-In-Chief of the journal in 2011, a lot of effort and activities have gone on behind the scenes to further improve the standards of our journal. Some of the completed and on-going activities are presented in this editorial. The journal website was reactivated and electronic copies of all articles published in Volume 14 (2009) and Volume 15 (2010) of the journal were uploaded. The online submission system was redesigned to simplify the process. Furthermore, the Author Guidelines were revised to ensure clarity of requirements for the different types of manuscripts and consistency in the formatting of submitted manuscripts. Consequently, the turn-around period between manuscript submission and first round of reviews is now three to four weeks. If the authors adequately respond to reviewers' comments and submit a revised manuscript early, the time between initial submission and final notice of acceptance should not be longer than three months. The current plan is to publish two editions per year with each edition having a minimum of six articles. If, in a particular year, manuscripts accepted for publication are sufficient, a third edition may be published that year.

A major goal of the current editorial team is to continue to ensure that only rigorously peer-reviewed manuscripts that contain reports of scholarly activities capable of significantly contributing to evidence-based practice in the field of medical rehabilitation are published in the journal. Another goal is to elevate the standards and reputation of the journal to a level worthy of being indexed in PubMed. In order to achieve these goals, it is imperative that all medical rehabilitation professionals who have the knowledge and expertise to provide quality review of submitted manuscripts visit the journal website to register and indicate the desire to be considered as potential reviewers. Those who are currently registered and have not reactivated their registration or updated their information need to do so.

Authors need to adhere strictly to guidelines in preparing and formatting all manuscripts that are planned for submission ([www.njmr.org.ng/index.php/njmr/about/submissions](http://www.njmr.org.ng/index.php/njmr/about/submissions)). Editing and formatting the currently published articles was by far the most tedious of the editorial process. As a result, any future submission that is not in strict compliance with the "Author Guidelines" will be rejected without review.

As we continue to strive to improve the quality of published materials and facilitate better communication, I wish to acknowledge the significant contributions and indefatigable efforts of the past Editors-In-Chief of the journal. We cannot be where we are today without the foresight, diligence, and commitment of these eminent personalities to the dissemination of the scholarly activities of professionals in the field of medical rehabilitation, especially in Africa. I also wish to publicly appreciate the significant contributions of Dr. J. D. Jogunola, the current Registrar and Chief Executive Officer of the Medical Rehabilitation Therapists (Registration) Board of Nigeria. It is only by his immense support that the many changes to the journal, some of which are listed above, have been possible. Finally, on behalf of the editorial board, I express my profound gratitude to all the reviewers of the manuscripts that are published in this edition and I look forward to more fruitful collaborations.

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Editor-In-Chief