

EDITORIAL

The editorial board celebrate with you the volume 9, 2009 of S.J.P.

Our hope is to move from this humble beginning to become a front runner among quality scientific publications concerned with the health of our children in the Sudan. We are receiving very little number of papers from our colleagues round the country and abroad. This is rather disappointing. The criteria for acceptance is kept to the standards. However, still we encourage our colleagues to write and publish their scientific work. There are vast areas in the field of childhealth which are not explored in the Sudan. Our aim is to establish scientific reputation over the years for the journal through stringent criteria for acceptance of papers. This cannot be achieved without receiving a large number of papers from different parts of the country.

Childhealth services in Sudan faces many challenges which cannot be faced without original research and publications. We need to sow the seeds for several childhealth survival programmes. Attention should be drawn for primary health care provision to our children. Social issues of basic need like food, clean water, sanitation and shelter as well as basic services such as education and health care are the heart of paediatric services in the Sudan. The association has a duty to put forward the initiatives and guide principles such as: -

- 1- Priorities need to be decided among health activities in order to focus on those likely to have maximum impact on morbidity and mortality among vulnerable children.
- 2- Minimizing the cost of services by orientating them around a minimal list of essential drugs.
- 3- Sound clinical training for the health staff.
- 4- Contribution of the local community in order to help overcome the government incapacity to cover the cost of health services.
- 5- Increase the effectiveness of primary health care services by selecting the most cost effective health intervention methods, monitoring and strategies for problem solving.

We should not lock our self into curative care through highly expensive hospital catering largely to the urban elite and with virtually no impact on the health situation of our rural communities. The Sudan paediatric association has a major role to play in planning, provision and implementation of health services to our children in Sudan. Are we really doing so?

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