

## **Editorial Comments**

This issue of African Journal of Medicine and Medical Sciences (AJMMS) like those before it displays an array of interesting articles which cover different areas of clinical and laboratory medicine. There are five laboratory based articles which include (1) Detection of viral RNA by RT-PCR from serum for molecular diagnosis of measles, (2) Histopathological pattern of renal cell carcinoma in Ibadan, (3) Strongyloidiasis: prevalence, risk factors, clinical and laboratory features among diarrhea patients in Ibadan, Nigeria. (4) Progressing towards laboratory accreditation in developing countries and (5) Position paper for Health Authorities: Archived clinical pathology data-treasure to revalue and appropriate.

Papers that are clinical or clinico-pathological are (i) Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus and Hepatitis B Virus co-infection in pregnancy at the University College Hospital, Ibadan, (ii) Learning curve of radical hysterectomy for early cervical carcinoma, (iii) Prevalence of violence against pregnant women in Ibadan, Nigeria.

There is a review paper by Oyewole and Amosu titled: Public health nutrition concerns on consumption of red palm-oil (RPO). This paper is an in-depth review of literature on palm oil. The authors discuss the misconception that RPO could be dangerous to health because it is suspected to be atherogenic and thus could predispose people to cardiovascular disease. Evidence from literature shows that the contrary may be the case. RPO is widely consumed in Southern Nigeria and there is no evidence of increased cardiovascular diseases in this region compared with other parts of Nigeria and indeed the rest of the world.

There are two commentaries on the paper by S. Kadiri and E.O. Agbedana both of which argue along the same line that RPO is probably not dangerous to health and one wonders why the controversy stated in the first instance. However moderation is advocated in the consumption of palm oil especially in those with pre-existing hypercholesterolemia.

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*Editor-in-Chief*