

## **Sudanese Journal of Public Health: Towards Excellence and Professionalism**

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Dear Editor,

I was delighted to receive the first issue of the first volume of the SJPH. Its publication is timely. At no time, the Sudan is in bad need for such a journal. Right now is the time when there are few if any journals in the Sudan being published promptly and regularly. Right now is the time when health problems in the Sudan are becoming more difficult by the increase in the complexity of the causes generating them. Right now is the time when there are much more faculty, university teachers and researchers who would look desperately for high-powered local peer-reviewed scientific journals to publish their research of local relevance.

I have witnessed the perception and the birth of the idea of the SJPH. For the last few years, it was the concern of one of its editor Dr. Elsheikh Badr, who always brought the issue of establishing a SJPH and sought advice whenever we met. It is fortunate that young scientists of commitment and vision address and avail themselves for such an important and noble mission. Although one would like to name one person for the responsibility of editorship in a journal, the fact that the SJPH has four editors is a reflection of the readiness to shoulder a collective responsibility with a real spirit of a team, at least at this stage of the journal evolution.

I would like to congratulate the editors for an excellent first issue. To me, the standard of the first issue of the journal is not less than many well established journals in the area. The look, style, layout and design of the journal are of high standard. The selection of high priority and relevant topics was also successful.

Public health is a specialty that encompasses many other disciplines. Any health problem that exceeds certain prevalence rates or poses imminent danger to individuals or community, whether it is medical or surgical, automatically becomes a public health problem. Hence, a journal of public health is a pertinent publishing venue for physicians, surgeons, psychiatrists, ophthalmologists, social scientists and others. Indeed some specialties are considered public health specialties; such as microbiology and immunology. Many of these specialties are taught in schools of public health throughout the world. I therefore call upon physicians and scientists of all specialties in and outside Sudan to publish in the SJPH.

Again, I would like to congratulate the editors for an excellent first issue and I can confidently tell them: You are on the right track for excellence and professionalism