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INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

SUBMISSIONS

All manuscripts must be submitted on-line through the email address, edomedj@gmail.com along with 2 hard copies to the Edo NMA Secretariat and addressed to Prof A E Omoti, Editor-in-Chief, Annals of Medical and Surgical Practice, Department of Ophthalmology, University of Benin Teaching Hospital, PMB 1111, Benin City, Nigeria.

JOURNAL SCOPE

The Annals of Medical and Surgical Practice is a peer-reviewed journal published on behalf of the Nigerian Medical Association, Edo State Branch. This journal publishes original communications in the form of original research, high-quality case report, short communications, letter to the editor and systematic reviews on clinical medicine (surgery, surgical specialties, paediatrics, internal medicine, public health, obstetrics and gynaecology etc), laboratory medicine, and other specialties in the basic medical science, the allied health science and health related social science. The journal is published twice yearly, in the months of June and December.

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Images: Submit good quality colour or black and white images, preferably in JPEG format. Each image should be less than 2 MB in size.

Manuscripts must be prepared in accordance with "Uniform requirements for Manuscripts submitted to Biomedical Journals" developed by the International Committee of Medical Journal

Editors (October 2006). The uniform requirements and specific requirement of the Annals of Medical and Surgical Practice are summarized below.

Original articles: The text of original articles may amount to 3000 words (excluding Abstract, references and Tables) and should be divided into sections with the headings Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Material and Methods, Results, Discussion, References, Tables and Figure legends. There should be structured abstract consisting of the aim, methods, results and conclusion. It should be about 200 to 300 words.

Ethical issues: For experimentation on human beings, indicate whether the procedures followed were in accordance with the ethical standards of the responsible committee on human experimentation (institutional or regional) and with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975, as revised in 2000 (available at http://www.wma.net/e/policy/17-c_e.html). When reporting experiments on animals, indicate whether the institution's or a national research council's guide for, or any national law on the care and use of laboratory animals was followed. Evidence for approval by a local Ethics Committee (for both human as well as animal studies) must be supplied by the authors on demand. Animal experimental procedures should be as humane as possible and the details of anaesthetics and analgesics used should be clearly stated. The journal will not consider any paper which is ethically unacceptable. A statement on ethics committee permission and ethical practices must be included in all research articles under the "Materials and Methods" section.

Review Articles: It is expected that these articles would be written by individuals who have done substantial work on the subject or are considered experts in the field. The manuscript should have an unstructured Abstract (250 words) representing an accurate summary of the article.

Case reports: New, interesting and rare cases can be reported. These communications could

be of up to 1000 words (excluding Abstract and references) and should have the following headings: Abstract (unstructured), Key-words, Introduction, Case report, Discussion, Reference, Tables and Legends in that order.

Letter to the Editor: These should be short and decisive observations. They should preferably be related to articles previously published in the Journal or views expressed in the journal.

Others: Editorial, Guest Editorial, Commentary and Opinion are solicited by the editorial board.

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Examples of journal referencing is as follows.

Omoti AE, EnockME, Iyasele ET. Surgical management of primary open-angle glaucoma in Africans. *Expert Rev Ophthalmol* 2010; 5: 95-107.

Omoti CE, Omoti AE. Richter's syndrome: A review of clinical, ocular, neurological and other manifestations. *Br J Haematol* 2008; 142: 709-716.

For a textbook state the author/authors, title of chapter, title of book, edition, place of publication, publisher, year of publication and

pages. An example of referencing for a textbook is as follows.

Kanski JJ. Glaucoma. In: *Clinical Ophthalmology, a systematic approach*. 5th ed. Toronto, Butterworth-Heinemann. 2003: 192-269

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

PROGRESS REPORT OF A NEW ERA IN THE ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES OF THE NIGERIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, EDO STATE BRANCH.

Afekhide E. Omoti. FWACS, FMC(Oph), FIPMD

Professor of Ophthalmology

Editor-in-Chief

I give thanks to the Almighty God for bringing this dream to reality and the opportunity to continue this journal in a sustainable form. As stated in the inaugural issue, the idea for this journal started a few years ago, when the then Chairman of the Nigerian Medical Association, Edo state, Dr Philip I. Ugbodaga approached me with this vision and requested me to accept to be the founding Editor of the Edo State NMA scientific journal. I was initially reluctant to accept, but he was so determined that without getting my consent, presented the matter to the Annual General Meeting of the Association where I was duly elected to be the founding Editor of this journal. I therefore wish to play glowing tribute to his visionary leadership at the time. Very unfortunately, the journal never saw the light of day due to a combination of factors but most notably the avoidable crisis that engulfed the association which became compounded by the lack of a legal framework and paucity of funds for an immediate take-off. By a twist of fate, I found myself being elected as the Chairman of the Nigerian Medical Association, Edo state. It would have been a shame if I could not get this journal to take off as envisioned by the Ugbodaga-led NMA even after an intervening tenure between us. The first challenge that I faced as Chairman was absolute lack of funds and very heavy inherited indebtedness of the association. My first mission was to rescue the association from this problem and stabilize it. Having successfully done this to the glory of God, it was time to establish a legal framework, the editorial board and then publish

the first issue of the journal. Efforts to amend the Edo NMA rules and regulations to include a legal framework for this journal was initially opposed by certain individuals, but finally, the Edo NMA rules and Regulations was eventually amended in July 2006 at the Annual General meeting of the association. Finally, we are here. The dream has now come to reality. Following the successful launch of the inaugural edition by the Edo State Governor and the Honourable Minister of State for Health in June, 2016, we now have are now publishing the second issue.

The aim of this journal is to promote the culture of research and publication primarily among medical doctors in Edo State of Nigeria, but also advance research among doctors and health scientists in the tropics and worldwide. The vision we have for this new journal of the Edo NMA which we have titled, "Annals of Medical and Surgical Practice" is to become a leading scientific peer-reviewed journal in Africa and in the world, publishing ground breaking innovations and discoveries that will positively advance the field of health care. The journal will become visible internationally and the editorial board will work to get it indexed in the earliest possible time.

This inaugural issue included 14 publications from various fields of medicine and dentistry including Surgery, Medicine-Dermatology, Ophthalmology, Preventive Medicine, Haematology, forensic anthropology, Maxillofacial Surgery and Dentistry. The authors include some of the top professionals in their various fields of specialization as well as upcoming specialists. This issue contains nine publications from various fields in medicine. The first two are review articles followed by seven original articles. We hope to continue to expand the scope of the publications and encourage all doctors and allied health professionals to seize this opportunity to publish their work in this journal.