Editor's note

The gallant efforts of the joint publishers of the SAJCN, Taylor and Francis (T&F) and MedPharm have been rewarded with significant progress that has been achieved in migrating the entire archive of the SAJCN to the T&F's library. It has unfortunately not been possible to activate or publish the June 2016 SAJCN issue in the new website, primarily because a significant number of older issues (as far back as 1988) had to be scanned, checked and formatted before they could be migrated. Nevertheless, a large part of the archive of the journal has been published on T&F already and is available at http://medpharm.tandfonline.com/toc/ojcn20/current. Our readers can therefore get a glimpse of the new look website which, hopefully, will be adopted as of the third 2016 issue of the SAJCN.

The third annual Global Nutrition Report¹ was released in June 2016. Part of its full title "Ending Malnutrition by 2030" brings hope for more sustained efforts in achieving our elusive, but key, objective. The report coincides with the United Nations General Assembly proclamation² making the next decade (2016-2025) the decade for action on nutrition for improving access to healthier, sustainable, affordable and more varied diets for all people. The report "aims to be a beacon, providing examples of change and identifying opportunities for action. This year's report focuses on the theme of making—and measuring— SMART commitments to nutrition and identifying what it will take to end malnutrition in all its forms by 2030". The report identifies the need for a SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-phased) objectives approach in achieving the Global Nutrition targets for 2025 as set by the World Health Assembly: reduce stunting by 40%, reduce and or maintain child wasting to <5%, reduce anaemia among women of reproductive age by 50%, increase exclusive breast feeding rates to at least 50% and reduce low birth weight by 30%. The targets in the over-nutrition part of the malnutrition spectrum (no increase in the prevalence of childhood obesity, adult overweight, adult obesity and adult diabetes) appear to be less ambitious, probably because of a greater recognition of the enormity of the task to address the rise in the prevalence of non-communicable diseases. Certainly, the report is rich in data and will make a useful quick point of reference.

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References

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- World Health Organisation. General Assembly proclaims the Decade of Action on Nutrition. http://www.who.int/nutrition/GA_decade_action/en/. April 2016.