Reproductive health issues, infections and non-communicable diseases

James K Tumwine

Welcome to this bumper March 2020 issue of African Health Sciences. The first five papers in this issue are on sexuality in men and adolescents. Hence Lampiao and Chisaka have written an interesting research article on the ‘incidence and impact of hyperviscosity on sperm parameters of Malawian men seeking assisted reproduction’1. A similar paper from Tanzania reports on ‘bacteriospermia’ and other factors associated with male infertility2. The next three articles are on sexual behaviour and practice. They include: ‘use of sachet alcohol and sexual behaviour among adolescents in Nigeria’3; sexual knowledge and practice of adolescent learners in rural South Africa4; and sexual behaviours and risk perception of STIs among polytechnic students’ in Nigeria5.

The next group of papers are on, yes you have guessed right, infectious diseases. They cover uptake of human papilloma virus vaccines among female secondary school students6; *Candida* spp. and age-related disparities amongst women presenting with vaginitis7; and toxoplasmosis in pregnant women8. Continuing with the pregnancy theme, we have a paper on the use of alternative medicines during pregnancy in Zimbabwe9; and outcome of gestational trophoblastic disease in Egypt10. The infectious disease theme continues with work on HIV-related knowledge level among Indonesian women11 and a systematic review of ARVs12. There are more papers: chronic HIV infection and health related quality of life in resource poor settings13; cryptosporidiosis among HIV patients in sub-Saharan Africa14; malnutrition amongst HIV adult patients15; viral suppression and low attrition in healthy HIV-infected patients initiated on ART with CD4 above 500 cells/μL16; acceptance and utilization of HIV testing among the youth17; rabies in Kwasulu-Natal18; and central line-re; rabies in Kwazulu-Natal19; and ultrasound and carotid stenosis20. Others are on unorthodox ophthalmic preparations in Ghana21, feeding and swallowing difficulties of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders22; effects of head-of-bed elevation on respiratory pattern23; kangaroo mother care outcomes24; and visual impairment25; and two letters to the editor26,27. Quite a rich menu. Happy reading!

References
3. Oluwaseunfunmi A, Ademola A. Use of sachet alcohol and sexual behaviour among adolescents in Ibadan,


23. Chilongola JO, Sabuni EJ, Kanyolo EP. Prevalence


43. Mohamed EA, Elgari MM, Babker AM, Waggiallah HA. Comparative study of hypercoagulability change in steady state and during vaso-occlusive crisis among Sudanese patients living with sickle cell disease. *Afri Health


