



EDITORIAL



In an era where Africa contributes barely 2% to global scientific output, and where brain drain and fragile infrastructure threaten the sustainability of open science. **DOKITA** stands as a defiant pillar of excellence. As the first medical students' journal in West Africa, it has not merely survived, it has risen to the occasion.

With a legacy spanning over six decades, **DOKITA** has been many things to many people: a fertile ground for budding researchers to find their footing before becoming giants in their fields, and a vital sanctuary for young scholars whose voices might otherwise have been silenced by the prohibitive barrier of article processing charges. Above all, it remains a light bearer, a blueprint for the student journals that have followed in its wake.

From the vibrant walls of Alexander Brown Hall, generations of medical students have remained diligent, disciplined, and deeply committed to the vision birthed

within this citadel. They have weathered the storms of shifting seasons to ensure that this legacy is preserved. The fruit of this collective resilience is manifest in the more than forty editions currently preserved in our archive.

Today, the Editorial Board distinguishes itself once again. This special edition curates a diverse collection of articles exploring a range of compelling contemporary themes, from the frontiers of Deep Brain Stimulation" to the pressing public health realities of "Maternal Mortality in Urban Slums". Beyond the scientific value of these articles, these works stir up questions that touch the heart and stimulate the mind, encouraging us to harness and translate these unique human energies into policies, guidelines, and infrastructure capable of transforming our world.

Special appreciation goes to our Editorial Consultants and Past Editorial Alumni who have walked with us through the many turns of this journey. We are sincerely grateful for your continued guidance and support. To our reviewers, who repeatedly sacrificed personal time and leisure to attend to our requests, the Board extends its deepest gratitude; this work would not have been possible without you.

To our readers, the evidence of **DOKITA**'s enduring quality is before you, and as we commemorate this new edition, we are reminded of the words Dr Ian Douglas, Former Editor of The Lancet:

"Now that I have read the latest issue, I can only reiterate my congratulations—I do not myself know of a better student journal anywhere."

With this, I wish you a rewarding and enriching reading experience.

ADEJINMI, John Oluwapelumi,
Editor-in-Chief,
2024/2025 Board Year.



EDITORIAL



Questions lie at the very heart of human civilization. Every major advancement has been born from the courage to question the status quo. Centuries ago, our ancestors watched helplessly as a mysterious febrile illness claimed the lives of children and loved ones. Until people began to ask questions. What was this disease? What caused it? How could it be treated, or prevented? Today, malaria, once a near-death sentence, is preventable, treatable, and steadily being pushed toward eradication in many parts of the world. What once seemed like a Goliath was brought down by the stone called “questions”.

More recently, a medical team in Vietnam achieved a remarkable milestone in the treatment of leukaemia. And with advances such as this it is no longer unconceivable that cancer would one day be just another medical diagnosis. But these advances do not come by chance, they come by inquiry. This is the essence of research: the art of

asking the right questions. Answers often excite the layman but the researcher is more concerned with questions. Every answer births a new question. How can a treatment be made better, safer or more acceptable? How can a disease be prevented or eradicated? How can healthcare be made more accessible? Questions, questions, questions.

Nowhere is this art of asking questions more essential than for those of us who dare to attempt an understanding of the most complex structure known to man. The human body remains the most complex structure known to humankind, and any claim to fully understand it would be an act of hubris worthy of myth. As medical practitioners, we are therefore sentenced to a life of perpetual inquiry. It is imperative that this art of asking the right questions is cultivated early in the training of medical practitioners. That they become confident contributors to unveiling the mysteries of the human body.

This is the mission that the **DOKITA** Journal has upheld for sixty-five years. Through forty-one previous editions, we have stayed committed to fostering the fine art and discipline of inquiry among medical students. Now, in keeping with this tradition, we proudly present the 42nd Edition.

In this edition, diverse questions and subjects are explored. Anyaegbu M. U. et al. examined fertility awareness among young female graduates in Oyo State through a cross-sectional study. Adejinmi J. O. investigated maternal mortality in urban slums using a focused review, while Bashir I. M. et al. assessed maternal knowledge, attitudes, and practices regarding neonatal jaundice in Zakho through a cross-sectional approach. Further contributions include genomic insights into schizophrenia, an overview of surgical sutures past and present, an exploration of deep brain stimulation, and a forward-looking discussion on unlocking the healthcare value chain in Nigeria through the role of future clinicians.

This edition also features an interview with Dr. Akinyemi Ojesina, a distinguished alumnus of the Board whose giant strides in the field of cancer genomics continue to inspire, alongside several non-scientific features that enrich the journal experience.

I extend my sincere appreciation to all authors for their courage to ask the questions that matter. I am deeply grateful to our expert peer reviewers for their diligence and commitment to maintaining the highest standards of academic publication excellence. Our Board Chairman, Professor Akinyinka Omigbodun, has been a constant source of wisdom and support; for this, we thank you sincerely, Sir. To our Deputy Board Chairman, Faculty Adviser, Editorial Consultants, Board Members, and amazing alumni, this edition is a testament to your collective effort, belief in and support of our vision; my gratitude knows no bounds.

Dear reader, as you turn these pages (or scroll through them) you will encounter answers to questions that others dared to ask. We hope that you, too, are inspired to ask the right questions, because the next breakthrough is always one question away.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the 42nd Edition.

MONG, Victor U.,
Editor-in-Chief,
2025/2026 Board Year.