

EDITORIAL

Special Issues and Regional Congresses, Chapters and Associations**Salem A Beshyah¹, Elmahdi A. Elkhammas²**¹Center for Diabetes and Endocrinology, Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.²Department of Surgery, Division of Transplantation, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA.

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The current issue of the *Journal*, is dedicated completely to publish the proceedings of the Second Arab Society for Pediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes Conference which was held between the 6th-8th November 2014, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. This is a gesture made by the *Journal* to welcome more submissions of high quality abstract books for publication on its pages.

In every clinical and scientific congress; keynote addresses, state of the art lectures and symposia presentations by international guests and local, national and regional key opinion leaders remain the most attractive features of the program. However, we strongly argue that oral and poster presentations that document the characteristics of medical disorders in a given geographical locality are equally important particularly for researchers and academics. The latest advances in medicine and biomedical sciences can be readily followed in each and every international congress *anywhere*. However, the epidemiological trends,

peculiarities of disease processes, presentations and responses to managements can only be learned by giving adequate space to submitted abstracts from local and regional practitioners. Notwithstanding this, maintaining quality of material presented in these conferences is vital. We would like to make the case for senior physicians and surgeons to put a greater effort in planning research and closely supervise its conduct and eventually encourage their research staff to excel in carefully writing their abstracts, preparing their posters and delivering their oral communications.

Over the years since its inception, *Ibnosina J Medicine and Biomedical Sciences* has regularly published abstract books of several meetings from the region (2-8). We welcome more submissions from regional medical congresses from all over the world. We normally entrust the scientific committee of the congress with the guest editor's workload and we limit our work to restyling, language and layout.

Even though we appreciate that such communications have not been subject to a full peer review process they remain a valuable resource for data on epidemiological and clinical characteristics of disease processes in a given region or country.

We would like to thank all the guest editors for the present and previous abstract books. We would like to invite you to browse through the Abstract Book in this special issue, we trust that you enjoy the readings across the range of presentations as indicated. Many of the original contributions are reported here for the first time and many may not be published elsewhere as many authors from the region would take it further.

Although high quality and professionalism remain as the primary determinants for acceptance, we welcome all your abstract books, proceedings, position statements to be shared and readily with the global medical community timely and freely

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