

From the editorial bench:

April, 2020.

Members of the editorial board of Journal of Medical Laboratory Science wish to express their profound gratitude to all the authors that submitted treasured research articles for consideration and publication in our journal. Most importantly, we thank all the reviewers for creating time and priceless efforts/expert comments that assisted in improving the quality of some of the articles especially from young authors.

We are thrilled to present Volume 30, Number 1 in the series, though this edition should have been published in March, but due to the prevailing global Coronavirus pandemic, aka COVID-19, some reviewers, understandably, delayed in getting back to the chief editor with the manuscripts assigned to them.

We are making frantic efforts to align the Journal of Medical Laboratory Science (JoMLS) along the tenets of 21st century digital information. In this regard, we wish to put the Association of Medical Laboratory Scientists of Nigeria (AMLSN) on notice that the online JoMLS is receiving lots of hits and article downloads from numerous academicians around the world, probably due to high quality of some articles.

Indexing: In the last published December 2019 edition, we reported some progress made in terms of making all the articles available to all academic institutions around the world. JoMLS has been indexed in Google scholar, Research gate and can be found in WorldCat Database Search Engine. The application for indexing in other international indexing bodies such as INDEX COPERNICUS was successful. <https://journals.indexcopernicus.com/search/details?id=65583>

In addition, JoMLS is now indexed in Directory of Research Journal Indexing (DRJI) (<http://www.olddrji.lbp.world/JournalProfile.aspx?jid=1116-1043>)

and in Citefactor (<https://www.citefactor.org/journal/index/24687/journal-of-medical-laboratory-science#.XgGUsndFzIU>)

We have also submitted application to the African Index Medicus hosted by the World Health Organization (<http://indexmedicus.afro.who.int>)

In addition, I am reiterating here that we have obtained an International license under the **Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial 4.0 International Public License** with this symbol



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In this **volume 30, No.1, 2020**, we are grateful to our respected reviewers who found nine (9) manuscripts worthy of publication. Other manuscripts received from January to April 2020 that are not published in this volume, are either rejected as recommended by the reviewers or still undergoing peer-review.

Ibeh *et al* from the Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences, University of Benin, did a thorough review on the current Coronavirus pandemic and the role of Medical Laboratory Scientists in curtailing the pandemic. Professor Ibeh posited that Medical Laboratory Scientist are “disease detectives, their role in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic include, but not limited to: diagnosis, monitoring, confirmation of recovery, safety and efficacy testing of broad-spectrum antiviral agents, discovery and development of vaccines, validation of testing protocols and testing kits, offering of advisories to guide government policy on containment at all levels amongst others”

Anukam and Uche, from the Department of Medical Laboratory Science Nnamdi Azikiwe University and Department of Human Physiology, University of Benin, whose article was chosen as a cover page used *in silico* algorithms to predict ligand binding site residues at position 995-Leucine and 1004-Arginine found in the structural spike (S) protein of the COVID-19 and that they were associated with phosphatidylcholine. Their study also found that “M protein has an active site residue at position 146-Arginine with enzymatic activity related to 3 carboxycis, cis-muconate cycloisomerase, thus suggesting that this active site residue may be a potential drug and or vaccine target”

Esiere *et al* from Department of Medical Laboratory Science, University of Calabar found Cefotaximase (CTX-M) gene was the most encountered resistance encoding gene in *Escherichia coli* clinical isolates Calabar metropolis.

Imoru *et al* from the Department of Haematology, Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital, Kano State, determined “the levels of haemostatic and haemorheological parameters in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus on metformin and who also engaged in physical exercise” showing “significantly lower values of protein C and antithrombin III and significantly higher values of fibrinogen, RPV and WBV compared to non-diabetic subjects”

Finally, but not the least, **Okorie *et al*** from the Department of Medical Laboratory Science, Faculty of Health Sciences, Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, determined the effects of *Mucuna pruriens* on the liver of wistar rats. Their study showed “notable increase in total protein and some inflammatory cells seen in the liver histology can indicate toxicity”

Enjoy all the articles and stay safe as the COVID-19 lockdown will soon be over.

Sincerely,

Kingsley C Anukam,

Chief editor.

Journal of Medical Laboratory Science.

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