

## Principal's Message

It is readily accepted within the medical fraternity that the West Indian Medical Journal (WIMJ) plays an important role in the dissemination of advances in medical knowledge required by health professionals and scientists alike. The articles have been invaluable in bringing to the profession great insights into the diseases that plague the people of the region and as a consequence have facilitated improved diagnosis and treatment. For sixty unbroken years, the WIMJ has been a source of high quality, meaningfully illustrated articles to help satisfy the health needs of the region.

In full recognition of this tremendous contribution, the UWI, Mona Campus unreservedly congratulates the WIMJ, as it celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The accolades heaped upon the Journal come from within and without the region and are supported by the high scientific citation index factor. Representing the brightest and best medical minds, the authors of and subscribers to the Journal cut across language barriers to contribute to the ever growing international standing which the WIMJ enjoys. These erudite minds hail from the English-speaking, French and Dutch Caribbean islands, North America, Europe, Africa and Asia. Further undeniable proof of the international reputation resides in the more than one hundred libraries around the world which make the Journal available to their clientele.

This reception to the WIMJ is not surprising as from its inception the articles focussed unrivalled, on the presentation

of critical information on diseases in the Caribbean. As far back as 1980, the Journal also attracted attention as it recorded information on open heart surgery and diseases with a world-wide resonance such as hypertension, diabetes mellitus and cancers.

This sixtieth anniversary publication will, I am sure, uphold the high traditions of the Journal as it has chosen to bring to the fore new insights into medical issues that affect in a marked way, the quality and length of our lives. I refer to the features on the burgeoning stroke epidemic, cardiovascular disease risk factors, obesity in adults and children, glaucoma, chronic kidney disease in the Caribbean and many others, equally relevant.

I must offer the Campus's fullest support to the WIMJ as it continues to give exposure to health issues not only because of their potential to impact our individual lives but also because of their potential to impact the economy of every nation. May the efforts of the WIMJ continue to be felt positively throughout the region and the world. Happy sixtieth anniversary!

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