كلمة رئيس التحرير | EDITOR'S LETTER

Science Does Not Wait for Peace

العلم لا ينتظر السلام

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With the publication of Volume 1, Issue 2 of the Zamzam Medical Journal, we mark another step forward in a journey that began under the most difficult of circumstances. Sudan has endured a devastating conflict that has displaced millions, dismantled institutions, and silenced many of the voices that once anchored our medical community. And yet, here we are—publishing again. That fact alone carries a profound significance that we should not overlook.

I wish to be direct about what this journal represents at this moment. It is not, first and foremost, a vehicle for prestige or impact factors. It is an act of institutional continuity. Every article we publish serves as an assertion that Zamzam University College remains open; that its faculty are still working, still thinking, and still producing knowledge; and that the Sudanese medical tradition will not be interrupted by those who have chosen to resolve their differences by burning the country down around them.

This issue demonstrates something vital: the tenacity of Sudanese and Sudan-affiliated physicians who continue to contribute to global medical knowledge under fire.

We open with a review of senolytics as a strategy against cancer relapse—a contribution at the frontier of translational oncology, directly relevant to the global conversation about post-chemotherapy management. We follow this with a rigorously designed randomized controlled trial protocol on albendazole monotherapy for cystic echinococcosis in central Sudan, a study that addresses a neglected tropical disease endemic to our region and proposes a treatment pathway that, if confirmed, could spare thousands of patients from surgery. Our narrative review on iron deficiency anemia in postmenopausal women, built around an illustrative case, offers a clear teaching model for the next generation of clinicians, pairing clinical reasoning with a guideline-based review of the evidence.

We close this issue with a tribute to Dr. Bashir Mohammed Osman Arbab, the father of gastroenterology in Sudan. His story, told so beautifully in these pages by Prof. Mamoun Homeida, is the story of our generation of Sudanese medicine: a generation that went abroad, acquired essential skills, returned, and got to work. Their life's work did not belong to them; it belonged to the patients of Sudan and to the students who came after. Dr. Arbab's career reminds us that while buildings and clinics are temporary, the knowledge and the lineage of care we pass on are what constitute a true medical system. His task, and ours, is simply to survive long enough to hand it on.

Our mission at the Zamzam Medical Journal is similar. We survive editorially so that the record is not lost, ensuring that when this war ends, when the hospitals are rebuilt and the universities reopen, there will be a continuous, unbroken thread of scientific publication. In the meantime, we are actively expanding. We are pursuing CrossRef DOI registration for all published articles, solidifying our online presence, and working toward indexing in major academic databases. These are not merely bureaucratic ambitions; they are the infrastructure of permanence.

To the authors in this issue: thank you. You found the time to write and to think when you had every justification not to. To our reviewers and editorial board: your judgment is what gives this journal its integrity. To our readers, wherever you are reading this—in Khartoum or in diaspora, in a hospital that still has electricity or in one that does not—know that you are an essential part of what we are fighting to keep alive.

The science does not wait. Neither shall we.

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