



EDITORIAL: Bridging Research and Practice in Contemporary Medical Science

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It is with great pleasure that we present Volume 5, Issue 1 (March 2026) of the Niger Delta Journal of Medical Sciences. This issue reflects our continued commitment to advancing evidence-based medical research and promoting scholarly discourse that addresses critical healthcare challenges within Nigeria and the broader global community.

The articles featured in this edition highlight significant contributions across key areas of clinical practice and public health.

The first study by Atemie G. et al. provides a rigorous comparison of the efficacy and safety profiles of sublingual and vaginal misoprostol for induction of labour. Through a randomized controlled trial design, the authors offer valuable insights that may inform obstetric practice and improve maternal and neonatal outcomes, particularly in resource-limited settings.

In the second article, Aliu R. et al. examine healthcare providers' knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of breastfeeding and breastfeeding support in Gombe State. This study underscores the critical role of healthcare professionals in promoting optimal infant nutrition and identifies gaps that may

hinder effective breastfeeding practices, thereby offering direction for policy and capacity-building interventions.

The third paper by Koroye O.F. et al. investigates predictors of complicated appendicitis in a tertiary hospital in Southern Nigeria. The findings contribute to the growing body of evidence aimed at improving early diagnosis and clinical management of appendicitis, ultimately reducing morbidity and enhancing patient outcomes.

Collectively, the contributions in this issue emphasize the importance of context-specific research in addressing pressing health concerns. They also reinforce the need for continuous investment in clinical research, professional education, and health system strengthening.

We commend the authors for their scholarly efforts and extend our appreciation to the reviewers and editorial team for their dedication to maintaining the high standards of this journal. We hope that the insights shared in this issue will inform practice, guide policy, and stimulate further research.