



Editorial

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Welcome message from the Editor-in-Chief

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This March 2026 issue of the Health Sciences Investigations Journal highlights the breadth of contemporary biomedical research, featuring one special communication and seven original articles. Collectively, these contributions reflect our mission to advance rigorous inquiry and foster meaningful dialogue across disciplines.

Some papers address infectious diseases and global health. Adusei-Poku reports on SARS-CoV-2 detection among travellers entering Ghana, and Asare et al. document viral hepatitis screening and vaccination campaigns. These studies underscore the importance of surveillance, diagnostics, and prevention in disease control. Other articles focus on non-communicable diseases and public health priorities. Addie et al. examine cardiovascular morbidity and mortality in Lagos State, Mensah et al. model stillbirth risk factors, and Agyekum explores

social media's influence on dietary choices among university students. Together, they highlight the multifaceted nature of public health challenges and the complex social determinants that increasingly shape health outcomes in urban African settings.

The issue also features experimental and translational research. Tagoe et al. show how enriched housing reduces depression potential in animal models, and Adjei et al. reflect on two decades of contributions by the NMIMR Laboratory Animal Facility. Finally, Kodua et al. provide a mixed-methods evaluation of Ghana's National Action Plan on antimicrobial resistance, offering lessons in policy implementation and capacity building. Given the increasing global threat of drug-resistant pathogens, such evaluations are vital for translating high-level policy into measurable local impact. Complementing these, Ankamah's special communication emphasizes the importance of rigorous search strategy development and appraisal in strengthening research quality. This paper is a timely reminder that methodological rigor underpins all scientific advancement and ensures that African research remains competitive and reproducible on the global stage.

Collectively, contributions illustrate the journal's role as a platform for innovation, collaboration, and impact. I invite readers to engage with this issue not only as a collection of findings but as a catalyst for dialogue and discovery. May these studies inspire new collaborations, inform practice, and advance the shared goal of improving health outcomes across communities and continents. As we continue to expand our reach, HSI Journal remains committed to providing a home for evidence that addresses both regional needs and global health priorities. As Editor-in-Chief, I extend my gratitude to our authors, reviewers, proofreaders, editorial team, and the University of Ghana College of Health Sciences for their diverse support in growing the journal.

Thank You

About the Editor-in-Chief

Rev. Prof. Benjamin Arko-Boham is a biomedical scientist and faculty member of the Department of Anatomy at the University of Ghana Medical School and a fellow of the West African College of Morphologists. His research focuses on cancer biology, genetics, and molecular mechanisms of disease, with a particular emphasis on breast cancer in African populations. He publishes widely, mentors emerging scholars, and contributes to strengthening biomedical research capacity in Ghana and the wider region. As Editor-in-Chief of Health Sciences Investigations Journal, he provides editorial leadership and vision, ensuring the journal remains a trusted platform for advancing health sciences scholarship.

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