



Editorial

Open
Access

Welcome message from the Editor-in-chief

Rev Prof Benjamin Arko-Boham
Email: barko-boham@ug.edu.gh



Volume 9.1 of the HSI Journal brings together a rich, regionally grounded collection that showcases the breadth and depth of contemporary health sciences research across Africa. This issue spans basic science and translational work, rigorous reviews, applied clinical studies, and innovative technological approaches. From natural product research on wound healing to AI applications in medical education and diagnostic imaging, the manuscripts reflect a shared commitment to improving health outcomes through evidence, context, and collaboration.

Several prominent themes emerge across this issue. Studies on cocoa-based wound healing, a multicentre cardiovascular rehabilitation programme in Yaoundé, and an integrated physiotherapy approach for brachial plexus injury exemplify translational and clinical innovation. Together, these contributions highlight practical interventions with direct implications for patient care. Women's and maternal health receive focused attention through a scoping review of mental health among young mothers and a multicentre study of polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) among infertility patients in Kumasi. These studies underscore persistent gaps in care and the

need for culturally responsive health services. Public trust, ethics, and community engagement are explored in reviews examining hesitancy toward biological sample donation and attitudes toward whole-body donation. Their findings highlight the importance of effective communication, ethical governance, and public engagement in advancing research participation across Ghana and beyond. Digital and diagnostic innovation is another defining theme. The development of a Light-CNN model for chest X-ray interpretation and an investigation into the use of AI in health sciences education in Morocco demonstrate the growing potential of machine learning to enhance both clinical decision-making and professional training.

The methodological diversity represented in this issue—including experimental and observational studies, systematic and scoping reviews, case reports, and applied AI development—reflects the continued maturation of the African research landscape. Several papers explicitly connect local epidemiological realities, cultural contexts, and health system challenges to their findings, generating insights that are both scientifically robust and practically relevant.

Readers will encounter research with immediate clinical applications as well as studies that inform longer-term priorities, including improving diagnostic accuracy, strengthening rehabilitation services, addressing sociocultural barriers to research participation, and integrating AI responsibly into healthcare education and practice.

I thank the authors, reviewers, and editorial team for their careful scholarship and timely contributions. Their work advances regional knowledge while speaking to global challenges in health sciences. As we publish Volume 9.1, we invite continued submissions that are methodologically rigorous, contextually informed, and policy-relevant—especially interdisciplinary studies that bridge laboratory findings, clinical practice, and community engagement. Together we can strengthen evidence that improves health across the continent.

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.