

## EDITORIAL

The article by Yaguoide et al, reviews the significance, risk factors and methods of detection of Microalbuminuria. This review is prompted by the importance of microalbuminuria as a relevant screening tool for renal disease and its low utilisation in our setting.

Wokoma and Alasia present the pattern and distribution of blood pressure in a rural community in Rivers state, with the objective establishing current prevalence patterns using JNC cut of level of 140/90mmHg in contrast to the last national blood pressure survey in 1997, which used a value of 160/90mmHg.

The incidence and prevalence of poor vision and blindness in the world, especially among the rural communities in developing countries is on the increase. This had led to the WHO/IAPB-driven "Vision2020 right to sight:" global initiative against blindness in rural communities, aimed at reducing global blindness to the barest level by the year 2020. As part of its contribution in the global fight against blindness in the rural communities, Rotary International, a humanitarian global organization encourages all Rotary clubs worldwide to undertake eye-camps in rural communities as part of their community service. Wokoma and Ichenwo report the pattern of eye disorders found among subjects of Ogbodo, a rural community in the Ikwerre local government area of Rivers state, during a one day Rotary eye camp.

Hypoglycaemia, a common complication of many childhood diseases, significantly increases disease-related morbidity and mortality. Jaja et al, in this study aim to determine the prevalence, morbidity pattern and outcomes of hypoglycaemia at admission of post-neonatal children in the Children's Emergency Ward (CHEW) of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching (UPTH).

Rape in children is a significant public health problem and represents the least reported but most devastating major form of child abuse all over the world. This study by Eke et al, seeks to evaluate the perception of rape among secondary school students in Port Harcourt.

The cervical spine is an area quite prone to trauma due to its mobile character. It is placed under various significant demands during various physical activities which predispose it to various injuries. The knowledge and good understanding of the common patterns of cervical spine injuries and their mechanisms will facilitate accurate assessment, diagnoses and prompt appropriate decisions about specific management. Eyichukwu et al, aim to determine the pattern and early outcome of management of closed cervical spine injuries at Enugu. It is expected that the outcome of such studies will identify injury trends and correlate these trends with definite risk factors and preventive strategies.

Opara et al, in this article examine the pattern, aetiology and management approach for acquired facial defects in the Imo State University Teaching Hospital over a 12 month period and highlight the challenges faced in managing these patients.

Tethered cord syndrome is a diverse clinical entity secondary to any of a heterogeneous group of spinal disorders that typically occurs in children, but occurs as a rare pathologic entity in adults. The occurrence of tethered cord and spinal cord syrinx in an adult Nigerian is quite rare. Maduforo and Akpa report a rare case of tethered cord syndrome with syrinx in a 35year old Nigerian female. They recommend that this condition should be considered as a differential diagnosis in the appropriate clinical setting as enhanced imaging facilities such as MRI will make the diagnosis more readily and less infrequent.

Total or complete visceral situs inversus is the complete inversion of position of the thoracic and abdominal viscera. It may be isolated or associated with malformations, especially cardiac or alimentary. It may be discovered in infancy because of associated anomalies but often remains asymptomatic and discovered by chance in adult life. Uchenna et al, present a case of Situs inversus in a 53 year old Nigerian male.

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