



Editor

Professor Geoff Gill
Liverpool School of Tropical
Medicine and
Aintree University Hospital,
Liverpool, UK

Consulting Editor

Professor Sir George Alberti
Senior Research Fellow,
Imperial College London
Past President,
International Diabetes Federation

Editorial Board

Prof Ibrahim Sherif – Libya
Prof Ken Huddle – South Africa
Dr Kaushik Ramaiya – Tanzania
Prof Nigel Unwin – UK
Prof J C Mbanaya – Cameroon

Publisher

Bryan Pearson

Production Editor

Aaron Griffiths

Business Development Manager

Ibsen Jaywalker

Business Manager

Grant Docking

ISSN 2042-8545 (Print)
ISSN 2053-4787 (Online)

All contents are © 2018
FSG Africa Ltd



Correspondence to:
African Journal of Diabetes Medicine,
FSG Africa Ltd
Vine House • Fair Green • Reach
Cambridge CB25 0JD • UK
Tel: +44 (0)1638 743633
Fax: +44 (0)1638 743998
E-mail: editor@fsg.co.uk

2 From the Journals

4 Review article

Diabetes mellitus in Nigeria and the on-going search for a cure from medicinal plants: a review

O A Oridupa and A B Saba

7 Review Article

Diabetes in Ethiopia 2000-2016 — prevalence and related acute and chronic complications: a systematic review

N Abebe, T Kebede, and D Addise

13 Review Article

The roles of microorganisms in the pathogenesis and prevalence of diabetes: a review

T Yahaya, I O Obaroh, and E O Oldele

16 Original Article

Clinical profile and outcome of hyperglycaemic emergencies at a rural hospital in southern Nigeria

O Olugbemide, I Bankole, K Akhujemokhan, and P Adunbiola

19 Original Report

Diabetes and pre-diabetes among police officers in Guinea-Bissau

J Lindman, K Ström, A Biague, Z J Da Silva, K Jakobsson, H Norrgren, F Månsson, and the SWEGUB CORE group

21 News Report

Main findings of The Lancet Commission on Diabetes in sub-Saharan Africa

Editorial

The Lancet Diabetes Commission Report

Recently the *Lancet* Diabetes and Endocrinology Commission published its report entitled “Diabetes in sub-Saharan Africa: from clinical care to health policy”.¹ This is arguably the largest and most authoritative report on African diabetes to date. It is 45 pages long with 303 references, and the authors are a large multinational team of experts. The text covers all aspects of diabetes in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) including diagnostic issues, prevalence, complications, management and mortality. Special attention is paid to the problems of health care delivery and potential solutions. It is impossible to adequately summarise such a document, but five key summary messages are given as follows (see news article on page 21 for detail).

1. The true burden of diabetes, complications and risk factors is unknown in SSA.
2. Diabetes and its consequences are costly to individual patients and national economies.
3. Health systems in SSA are unable to cope with the present burden of diabetes and its complications.
4. Restricted health-care resources should be focussed on managing diabetes and risk factors to prevent complications.
5. More evidence is needed on the benefits and risks of diabetes screening before such programmes are rolled out in SSA.

The authors propose a “hierarchy-of-needs” model for the future provision of diabetes care in SSA. This involves three levels of provision – level 1 is 100% availability by 2020 which would, for example, include metformin, sulphonylureas, short and intermediate-acting insulins. Level 2 is 75% availability by 2020 and 100% availability by 2025 and includes self-blood glucose monitoring and retinal screening programmes. Level 3 is 50% availability by 2020, 75% availability by 2025 and 100% availability by 2030.

The *Lancet* Commissioners are to be congratulated on this review. It gives us targets to work towards.

Professor Geoff Gill, Editor.

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine,
Liverpool, UK

¹Lancet Diabetes and Endocrinology Commission. Diabetes in sub-Saharan Africa: from clinical care to health policy. *Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology* 2017. Published online July 5 2017 [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2213-8587\(17\)30181-X](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2213-8587(17)30181-X)