

## **Editorial**

Greetings for 2016 from the Editorial team of SLJID. We are delighted to bring you the 10<sup>th</sup> issue of SLJID, a journal that began its journey in July 2011. A bi-annual journal, published during the past 5 years, we have carried reviews on many common infectious diseases and research articles, reporting on clinical, laboratory and public health aspects of viral, bacterial, fungal and parasitic infections. In addition, we have published case reports of uncommon manifestations of common infectious diseases as well as some infections rarely encountered in Sri Lanka

This issue of the journal continues in the same way, beginning with a review of dengue control measures, with an emphasis on new approaches, including vaccination and novel biological control methods. The review reminds us how important it is to use a multifactorial approach with participation of the community as well as different local and national governing bodies, in our attempts to eradicate or reduce the burden of any disease.

The journal continues to publish research papers relevant to diagnosis as well as treatment of infectious diseases. This issue carries the results of a multicenter surveillance study on antimicrobial resistance in urinary isolates from both hospitalized and non-hospitalized patients. Data obtained from such studies are vital for making clinical decisions as well as for developing policies for antibiotic use – a major need in Sri Lanka.

Wijesooriya et al. report negatively on the specificity and predictive values of the Cold Agglutinin Test used in diagnosis of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* pneumonia. There is a continuing need to educate both laboratory managers and clinicians of the usefulness and/or limitations of such diagnostic tests.

Each of the case reports in this issue of the journal has an important message for the practicing clinician. The unusual presentations of common diseases are highlighted in 2 case reports. The need for early diagnosis is emphasized in the report on rhinocerebral mucormycosis. The case report on multiresistant *Acinetobacter* infection of a prosthetic joint is a stark reminder of not only the infection risk with prostheses, but also the major problem of antimicrobial resistance in the Sri Lankan healthcare environment. The continuous need to improve available diagnostic services is demonstrated in the first reported patient with metapneumovirus infection.

We hope that you will continue to find the contents of this issue useful and thought provoking. Do let us have your feedback as well as contributions for publication in forthcoming issues. Please visit the journal's submission and peer review website at <http://www.sljol.info/>. We would also invite you to register as a Reviewer, as the availability of a wide pool of subject specialists for this purpose would assist us in our task of continuously improving the quality of the Journal.

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