

## ANATOMY JOURNAL OF AFRICA

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Doctors without anatomy are like moles. They work in the dark and the work of their hands are mounds (Friedrich Heidelberg, 1781–1861).

Anatomy is the basis of medicine and biomedical sciences (Sugand et al., 2010). It defines medical language and is core in training of surgery, radiology and oncology (Azer et al., 2004; Ogeng'o, 2007; Chino et al., 2011). The Anatomy journal of Africa was born of joint ideas and consultations between several prominent African anatomists under the auspices of the Association of Anatomical Societies of Africa (AASA). This journal provides a new unique avenue for communication of anatomical research in multiple fields of anatomy ranging from clinical anatomy, teaching, morphology, comparative anatomy, anatomical variations and developmental anatomy.

In a series of papers in this inaugural issue, various anatomy themes, ranging from endoscopic anatomy of the anterior abdominal wall, variant vascular anatomy and morphometry are communicated. In his contribution Prof. Hassan Saidi describes the pertinent issues in the anatomy of the anterior abdominal wall relevant during endoscopy. Unusual vessels are discussed in separate papers, one from India with the others from Kenya. Sugavasi et al., describe the origin of the hepatic artery from the left gastric, Misiani et al., discuss the origin of the testicular artery from the renal artery while Pulei et al., focus on the variant anatomy of the profunda brachii artery. El Busaidy et al., describe the age-related decrease in annular cellularity, elasticity and myocardial content of the atrioventricular junction with age. Singh et al., use dissection and radiology to study the hepatic veins in Indian cadavers.



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On the other hand Adjene et al., describe the renal morphological changes sustained by chronic use of a common therapeutic herb in Nigeria. Morphometric dimensions of the diaphragma sella, mandibular condyle and the orbit are separately discussed.

From the current issue of the Anatomy Journal of Africa, we will all look forward for a long fulfilling journey in Anatomical communication through this forum.

### REFERENCES

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