

Note from the Editors

It is with great pleasure that we announce the first issue of the Timor-Leste Journal Of Medical Science. As stated in the foundations of this scientific journal, taking into account the need to improve the main techniques, methods and knowledge in the areas of nursing, pharmacy, midwifery, nutrition and dietetics, as well as biomedicine and laboratory analyses, the Institute of Health Sciences in Dili (ICS) considered it necessary to create the Journal of the Institute of Health Sciences, called *Timor-Leste Journal of Medical Science*. The annual journal publishes articles, original/ pedagogical studies, abstracts and essays on all topics and problems related to the health sciences in East Timor and the world today.

For the year 2023, the Timor-Leste Journal of Medical Sciences has set itself the theme of ***Contemporary Problems, Challenges and Solutions for the Health Sciences***.

This theme aims to promote possible solutions to the challenges of the present and the future, with a special focus on the areas of nursing, pharmacy, midwifery, nutrition and dietetics, biomedicine and laboratory analyses and sports sciences. However, given the breadth of the health sciences, other areas and specialities of the health sciences were also considered, such as the health sciences in East Timor – obstacles, challenges and ways of overcoming them; the training of health professionals – case studies, practices and situations, academic qualifications in the health sciences in East Timor, the challenges and proposals for improving the quality of scientific research in the health sciences, contemporary problems, challenges and solutions for biomedicine and laboratory analysis; clinical analysis laboratories in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic, the post-Covid-19 world, tropical diseases, contemporary problems, challenges and solutions for nursing and midwifery sciences, education, nutrition and dietetics in East Timor, the paths for sports sciences and physical education in East Timor. Other topics were also considered in the areas

of medicine, veterinary medicine, biology, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and psychology.

The first issue of the journal welcomes five original and unpublished articles in health sciences and education that certainly contribute to increasing knowledge in the area of health sciences in Timor-Leste, doing justice to all that the country has already achieved and how much remains to be achieved.

Starting with the establishment of the Institute of Health Sciences in Dili, the first article, entitled *The Creation of a Biomedical Laboratory Sciences Course in East Timor – Needs and Challenges*, comes from one of the founders of the Biomedical Laboratory Sciences course at the ICS, Gregório Rangel, who tries to explain the need for the creation of the ICS and the establishment of the course in question, taking into account the shortage of human resources in these areas of health and the urgency of ensuring basic health care in the country. The scientist lists the major problems and challenges for the health sciences, highlighting the uniqueness of the Biomedical Laboratory Sciences course at the Institute of Health Sciences in Dili, which aims to train quality professionals using the best international practices.

Not only is there a need to cover the country's health needs with more and better health professionals through education, but hospital managers in East Timor also face daily challenges in providing health services. Intending to analyse the *Hospital Managers and Quality of Health Care: Integrative Literature Review*, the authors Dinis das Neves Soares de Sousa and Ede Surya Darmawan sought to review the literature produced to date to compile the scientific production available to ascertain, in the second article of the journal, what the Role of Hospital Managers in Promoting Quality in Healthcare is. The conclusion revealed that one of the manager's roles should encompass areas such as resource management, financial impacts, day-to-day technical procedures care routines and support for healthcare professionals.

The third article, briefly entitled *Predicting miRNAs in Colon Cancer*, by researchers Namphon Klaewkla and Surasak Wanram, argues

that possible epigenetic regulation by non-coding RNAs or microRNAs (miRNAs) plays a role in the development and progression of cancer. Since colorectal cancer (CRC) is the third most common type of cancer in the world, this study aimed to identify potential miRNAs specific to the KRAS and EGFR mutations using bioinformatics tools to predict them. Candidate miRNAs associated with the target genes of interest can be predicted. The selection of candidate miRNAs should be validated and is necessary for further development as biomarkers for the diagnosis and treatment of colon cancer.

The fourth article entitled *The Emergency Medical Service in East Timor* aims to describe the emergency medical service in East Timor. This article by Francisca da Costa, Rangel and Horácio Sarmento highlights the management of emergency service support, the emergence of medical service providers, the emergence of the medical service provision process and the importance of the emergency medical service, the role of the emergency medical service, as well as the challenges and opportunities encountered by the SNAEM. Bearing in mind that this is a relatively new service in the country, the carers explain in detail the three different ways of evacuating patients in the emergency medical services promoted by the SNAEM.

Finally, the article by Célia Maria da Silva Oliveira and Filipe Abraão Martins do Couto deals with *Public Investment and Legal Development in Education, Science and Higher Education in East Timor from 2002 to 2023*. The researchers address the evolution of education, science and higher education in East Timor from 2002 to 2023, through the evolution of public investment in education and science, legal developments in the field of education and science and the chronological construction of the ecosystem of education, higher education and science in East Timor. The scope of this work, more of an educational science and scientific research nature, reflects on the scarcity of investment in higher education and science in the country, a situation that has translated into a lack of qualified human resources, a lack of researchers at a national level, and scientific research itself, which is at an incipient and very limited stage.

We sincerely hope that this journal of the ICS Timor-Leste Journal of Medical Sciences will find its place and its voice within the health sciences in the country, among its most devoted intellectuals, researchers and students, as well as attracting international interest in the various upcoming themes that are so important in the field of health.

The Editors,
Gregório Rangel
Filipe Abraão Martins do Couto