

Editorial

Dear Readers,

It is with great pleasure that I present the first number of the **BELIZE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE**, a journal aimed at health professionals in Belize. The launching of this number is coincident with the 2nd MESOAMERICAN CONGRESS and pays tribute to the efforts of all medical doctors and dentists, who have worked in the last 30 years to make the **BELIZE MEDICAL AND DENTAL ASSOCIATION** an organization that groups, represents and encourages medical doctors and dentists in the principles of professional ethics and continuing education.

BELIZE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE is a quarterly, bilingual (English and Spanish), non profitable journal sponsored by the **BELIZE MEDICAL AND DENTAL ASSOCIATION** and with the support of the **MINISTRY OF HEALTH** of Belize.

This journal looks forward to creating a space for communication between health professionals that will allow diffusion of: medical projects, health programs, and the results achieved in their daily practice in our country. Furthermore, it enables publishing relevant papers from other professionals outside Belize, which contribute information of interest.

I have witnessed the development of public and private medical practice in the last 14 years. I am also certain of the high professional level of our doctors and dentists. The **BELIZE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE** is a platform to promote dialogue and communicate experiences between colleagues in Belize and, without any doubt, beyond our frontiers in the future.

BELIZE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE will present a varied content, which will adapt to each number. This allows all those interested to share their experience and adapt their work to different formats: Current report, Original papers, Case reports, Short communications, Reviews, News, and Letters to the Editors, among other.

BELIZE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE invites all medical doctors, dentists and health professionals in Belize to actively participate in the publication of topics of interest and as peer-reviewers in the evaluation and approval of articles to be published.

BELIZE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE invites all the participants in the 2nd MESOAMERICAN CONGRESS to publish their presentations in the second number to come out in January 2012. All persons interested can send their manuscripts to: bjm@bceditions.com or communicate by telephone with the **BELIZE CHEMICALS** office at 501-822-2686.

I wish to express my gratitude to the board of the **BELIZE MEDICAL AND DENTAL ASSOCIATION**, its president Dr. Joel Cervantes, for believing in this project and forming part of it; to the staff of the **MINISTRY OF HEALTH**, the CEO and the Director of Health Services; to all doctors, who contributed or collaborated in this first number: Dr. Adelita Zayden, Dr. John Waight, Dr. John Sosa, Dr. Pedro Arriaga, Dr. Jorge Hidalgo, Dr. Mauricio Navarrete, Dr. Nidia Larrinaga; to my staff for their work and dedication: Luis Peraza, Eloísa Le Riverend, Manuel González Daza, Cindy Lisbey, to my wife Dr. Edna Peraza for her permanent support; without them it would have been impossible to put together this issue on time and last but not least to the **PRINT BELIZE** staff for their support and patience.

My anticipated gratefulness goes to all our readers. I trust that many of you will become contributors, collaborators, reviewers and consultants of our journal.

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