

## A number of firsts

In this issue of the journal, we publish our first case report which focuses on airway management of a traumatic brain injury case.<sup>1</sup> While perhaps not traditionally enjoying the recognition of original research, case reports comprise an important component of the content mix in this journal reminding us that of the all-important link between scholarly activities and clinical practice. The case reported in this issue originates from a clinical context outside of South Africa, but where many South African emergency care providers currently work. We welcome reports of interesting or unique cases from any locale with characteristics similar to those in South Africa (whether this be with regard to burden of disease, scope of practice or qualifications) but we also urge local colleagues to send us their own case reports for consideration.

We also publish for the first time in the journal's short history a qualitative study about the experiences of students with simulated clinical scenarios.<sup>2</sup> It is important to note that, while the majority of biomedical literature reports on research of a quantitative nature, we welcome qualitative studies that serve an important function of inductively discovering research problems for future study. To round off the diverse topics in this issue, we also have a descriptive account of motivation amongst emergency operations centre workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>3</sup> This underscores the wide scope of SAJPEC, which goes far beyond only reporting on research about clinical pre-hospital emergency care.

Finally, we are approaching the end of the mandatory three-year period before which application can be made to the South African Department of Higher Education and Training for accreditation of peer-reviewed journals. We will be applying for accreditation early next year and I believe that, considering the criteria, we stand a good chance of this being successful. If so, this will mark a significant milestone in the evolution of SAJPEC as it has in the development of many other local peer-reviewed journals.

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## References

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3. McDowall J. An Investigation into employees' motivation during the COVID-19 pandemic, at a single private Emergency Medical Services provider in Gauteng. *South African Journal of Pre-hospital Emergency Care* 2022;3:19–25.