

Introduction to the Southern African Journal of Gynaecological Oncology



It gives me great pleasure to introduce you to this launch issue of the newly established journal of gynaecological oncology for our region!

The Southern African Journal of Gynaecological Oncology or SAJGO was

officially conceptualised in 2006 at a meeting of the South African Society of Gynaecological Oncologists when the meeting decided that our growing speciality would benefit from having our own journal. Two members were charged with investigating and developing the idea and today it gives me great pleasure to invite you to enjoy this launch issue. We are truly thankful to all who contributed to make this long-standing dream a reality. SAJGO will be the official journal of the South African Society of Gynaecological Oncologists but will also aim to be an important mouthpiece for Southern Africa and the developing world.

It was decided to produce a theme issue as the first journal and it is hoped that the journal will become an important reference or shelf issue for all our readers. The theme is: "**Current Status of Gynaecological Cancer in Southern Africa**". As the name suggests, our first journal will be dedicated to an overview of female cancers in our region. This issue will aim to give a summary of the current status of the most important cancers with regard to incidence, stage distribution, diagnosis and management in Southern Africa. We asked authors to focus on special problems experienced in our country and region, on the current state of the art as described in

other parts of the world and on differences when compared with these other areas. Remaining deficiencies in knowledge and treatment ability as well as recent important and local achievements receive attention.

As is stated clearly in the Editorial Policy, the journal will include all aspects of breast cancer as a priority disease in our sub-continent. **Breast cancer** is also an important multi-disciplinary disease and health workers with a focus on female health care or oncology are invariably heavily involved in the diagnosis and care for this disease. It was decided to have an important theme issue on breast cancer in the near future and we have thus not included an article on breast cancer in this issue.

This journal is truly a group effort with many local authorities contributing with great enthusiasm and expertise. Measured by the enthusiasm and quality of work prepared, I have no doubt that the journal will fulfil a need and that it will become a successful national and regional journal for our discipline and grow into an important mouthpiece for all working in this exciting field of female cancer care.

I hope you will enjoy this launch issue and continue to support the journal. I wish to thank all contributors and the local and international members of the editorial board.

Greta Dreyer

Editor-in-Chief