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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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This edition of the *South African Orthopaedic Journal* reflects the diversity of quality orthopaedics practised in South Africa. Articles cover a wide aspect of orthopaedics, from infections to bone metabolism. A specific local slant as reflected by the excellent collection of articles co-authored by Dr Gordon Siboto demonstrates the importance of our journal in disseminating this vital information, both locally, and regionally in east and central parts of Africa where our journal is distributed and where HIV is a major challenge. As our journal increases in stature, we can expect even more of these extremely important articles to be submitted. This edition has two articles co-authored by Prof Niek van Dijk, a well-regarded foot surgeon, and current President of the Nordic Orthopaedic Federation.

A general orthopaedic journal such as the *South African Orthopaedic Journal* remains important in today's portfolio of journals. Most orthopaedic surgeons in our country and region remain generalists, treating all aspects of orthopaedics from trauma to infections, and from congenital abnormalities to joint replacements. Our journal retains its vital importance in this respect, covering the whole spectrum of orthopaedics. We remain committed to this wide coverage of topics, as this is what our readership needs, and in fact demands.

The increase in the number of articles per edition also reflects its growing stature. The increasing number of articles submitted enables us to accept for publication only the best of those submitted, further improving the quality of our journal. This improvement in quality becomes self-perpetuating, and augurs well for the future of the *South African Orthopaedic Journal*.

Dick van der Jagt  
President: South African Orthopaedic Association

