

Editor's note

The SAJCN's editorial team together with the publishers, MedPharm, and the SAJCN's Management and Editorial Board continue to explore the creation of new features as well as more improvements in the SAJCN. In this issue of the Journal, the professional news section has been initiated by providing details on two new and important educational initiatives in the country, as well as news from the national Department of Health; Directorate of Nutrition. The SAJCN relies on its readers to provide details on any new developments in the field of Nutrition in order to ensure the sustainability of the new section. Please send your contributions to editor@sajcn.co.za. On the improvements front, the on-line system has been used to provide more accurate publication statistics. The SAJCN's current rejection rate is 38% and the turn around time to publication is approximately 12 months with the potential for further improvements.

The second in the SASPEN case report series, informative as it is, also raises two important issues. The first, "reconstituted vs ready-to-hang products", appears to be intensely debated in the country at the moment on an experience and preference basis albeit less so on evidence based practices. The question in need of answer appears to be "what product for whom, in what clinical setting and at what cost" bearing in mind the worsening of the ever present financial constraints we are faced with. The second, "complete enteral feeds vs home made feeds" is an equally vexing question with equally significant cost implications. The SAJCN will open a debate on both issues and readers are welcome to send their referenced contributions to editor@sajcn.co.za.

Finally, there has been a flurry of publications on breastfeeding practices in recent issues of the SAJCN. Gratifying as it is to

see progress, reflection and further emerging research needs on breastfeeding practices, such practices and maternal concerns regarding formula feeding may also be in need of further attention. In this regard, a recent systematic review¹ on the experiences of mothers who chose bottle-feeding has documented that "Mothers who bottle-fed their babies experienced negative emotions such as guilt, anger, worry, uncertainty and a sense of failure. Mothers reported receiving little information on bottle-feeding and did not feel empowered to make decisions. Mistakes in preparation of bottle-feeds were common. No studies examined how mothers made decisions about the frequency or quantity of bottle-feeds". Clearly, further research will afford additional perspective to these findings.

References:

1. Lakshman R, Ogilvie D, Ong KK. Mothers' experiences of bottle-feeding: a systematic review of qualitative and quantitative studies. *Arch Dis Child* 2009; 94: 596-601.