

**Editorial****Future of GIT in Iraq****Dr Makki H Fayadh****Director General of the Gastrointestinal and Hepatology Center  
& President of Iraqi Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology**

Dear Colleagues...

The first issue of our journal received a great welcome from colleagues in Iraq, the Arab world and prominent international figures in the field from the big centers and we are proud to have such warm welcome from renowned Gastroenterologist and hepatologists and to be on our advisory board.

We, in the editorial board are honoured by their contribution and we hope we will receive their contribution regularly.

Our journal will focus on areas of interest in Gastroenterology in our area and contribute to the international research and we feel that medical research is needed in the following areas:-

1. GIT cancers as we see it at younger ages, more undifferentiated and aggressive and combined research is needed to link this with possible risk factors like pollution, genetics, and radiation exposure.

2. Acute and chronic liver disease we have seen that 5% of our population are HbsAg carriers with high mutation rates and that about 0.5-1% of the population are HCV positive. These figures need special attention regarding strict disinfection of instruments exploring the subtypes and genotype and the responses to the treatments.

3. The problem of colitis and the distinction between infective colitis and inflammatory bowel diseases. We are seeing increasing numbers of colitides.

4. The malabsorption syndrome and the increasing awareness of celiac disease not only in symptomatic but asymptomatic patients.

5. The other major area of interest is the increased frequency of diagnosis of thrombotic tendency in the portal and hepatic veins, the cause of which need to be studied.

We are hoping to link our society with national and international societies to promote scientific activities and research in the field of Gastroenterology & Hepatology.

We in the editorial board appreciate our colleagues contributions.

Editor in chief