

Dear Readers,

I take this opportunity to thank readers of the Rwanda Public Health Bulletin (RPHB) for your support and continuous interest in the bulletin's content.

This issue comes out in a period where Rwanda is progressively recovering from the COVID-19 crisis. This is evidenced by the decrease in incidence and prevalence with high recovery rates.

Nevertheless, I believe the effect and impacts of COVID-19 might be evident for a long period during and post-COVID-19. For instance, COVID-19 will inevitably leave behind strong effects on mental health. Rwanda and the world in general will have to implement coping strategies to accommodate such impacts.

In this issue, you will read about the impact of COVID-19 on mental health in Rwanda on broader perspective as well as an update on the global pandemic trend. You will also find content on other health subjects other than COVID. This issue features the acceptability of family planning, maternal and child health.

As the country is still fighting the pandemic, other public health problems were not forgotten and the RPHB has considered them alongside COVID-19 in this publication.

This issue highlights: Impact of COVID-19 on Mental Health in Rwanda, the current global trend of COVID-19 pandemic, the use of immediate postpartum family planning at Kacyiru hospital, improving post-delivery complications and quality of birth practice in district hospitals in Rwanda and Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) of HIV in Karongi District, Rwanda.

I would like to call for your support to the RPHB by submitting your works to the bulletin.

Stay healthy and safe.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sabin Nsanzimana', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Dr. Sabin Nsanzimana, MD, PhD
Director General
Rwanda Biomedical Centre