

Clinically relevant, scientifically based

Initially, I would like to thank Dr Avishai Sadan, the former editor-in-chief of this journal, for his ardent dedication. With his prominent work and leadership, Dr Sadan led *Quintessence International* to eminent success and great accomplishments. It was a great pleasure and honor to serve as a section editor under him. We can only hope to continue this integral tradition of prestige and to maintain his "clinically relevant, scientifically based" heritage.

This being my first issue as editor of *Quintessence International*, I come to consider my new position overwhelming and demanding. Editorial work is not simple; it requires integrity, knowledge, team effort, hard work, and critical thinking. Editing a dental journal adds another facet due to the complexity that is dentistry. During our daily work as dentists, we sometimes forget that this vast field harbors clinical and diagnostic skills and medical knowledge that are all dependent on a superior form of research. Additionally, the multiple disciplines and specialties that assemble the science of dentistry make the picture even more intricate. One of the greatest challenges will be to publish a high-quality selection of articles that will stand for this wide spectrum of topics. With this as our premise, we look forward to embodying what we believe to be the epitome of *Quintessence International*. The journal should emphasize high-level research, useful clinical procedures, and exciting educational cases. The clinical procedures accepted for publication cannot be part of the existing common knowledge obtained by most dentists. They should be innovative and clinically helpful for the reader. Cases should teach the readers new diagnoses and treatment plans, assisting in the reduction of errors in dental offices. We will give very high priority to research manuscripts; any research published should obtain substantiated clinical relevance. It still, however, must follow the highest standards of ethical guidelines in addition to high-quality study design and data analysis. Our fundamental ambition is to enhance the clinical abilities and spur the interest and curiosity of dental practitioners. To make these goals more feasible, we would also like to add a pair of short publications: short case reports and short clinical notes. These categories should serve as a tool for clinicians who would like to share their experience and clinical cases with the dental community. The short case report will consist of only a succinct case representation and photographs, without an introduction or discussion, and should not exceed 1 page. Similarly, the short clinical note will be made up of a brief description of the procedure accompanied by demonstrative illustrations. More details on this type of publication can be found in the new author guidelines.

It is extremely difficult to criticize colleagues' work, especially knowing that the submitted manuscript consumed a lot of effort, thinking, attention, and time. However, we can publish only a certain number of manuscripts, and a limit for publication has to be made. We know that some of the authors will be dissatisfied with our decisions or comments, though we promise to maintain a decent, nonbiased critical review. Rejection from 1 journal does not terminate the possibilities for a manuscript; many excellent manuscripts that will not find a place in *Quintessence International* will be published in other highly esteemed journals.

Another important and sensitive issue is the time required for a decision to be sent to the author. We are aware that it can be very frustrating to wait for our response, though as mentioned earlier, dentistry is a vast field, and it sometimes requires more time and effort to find several experts to review a manuscript that provides a comprehensive review on a specific topic. Although it may be challenging, we will work hard to maintain timely responses.



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Eli Eliav, DMD, PhD, Quintessence International's new editor-in-chief, is the director of the Division of Orofacial Pain at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey Dental School in Newark, New Jersey. He graduated from Hebrew University, Hadassah's Faculty of Dental Medicine in 1991 and continued on at Hebrew University to receive his MSc (1995) and PhD (2004) degrees. From 1991 to 1995, Dr Eliav specialized in oral medicine at Hebrew University, Hadassah's Department of Oral Diagnosis, Oral Medicine, and Radiology in Jerusalem. As a visiting fellow, he trained in the Clinical and Basic Science Research Program at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research's branch of Pain and Neurosensory Mechanisms in Bethesda, Maryland. Dr Eliav has been the Susan and Robert Carmel Endowed Chair in Algesiology since 2004 and has been at his current position at UMDNJ since 2006. His research focuses on orofacial and neuropathic pain and the role inflammation plays on neuropathic pain.