

On Implant Prosthodontics: A Special IJP Supplement

This editorial ushers in my final year as editor-in-chief. Mine has been the privilege of working with an extraordinarily gifted editorial family and Quintessence Publishing, Co (QPC) Chicago team throughout the decade and a half since retiring from my University of Toronto career. Our shared IJP experiences took many forms—from efforts to select the most relevant articles and guiding authors with their submissions to initiating the Biennial IJP/Karlsruhe Workshops. The latter have now become an invaluable source of personal scholarly growth for young prosthodontic educators from the global teaching constituency and have strengthened the Journal's reviewer recruitment strategy. A forthcoming issue later this year will announce my replacement, and I look forward to assisting the necessary transition. I also felt it was opportune to start my final year with the IJP by highlighting the singular scientific event—Brånemark's osseointegration—that defined our discipline's expanded skills and commitment to providing the best patient care possible.

Dentistry continues to benefit from numerous quality publications that followed the first 1985 osseointegration text, which I was privileged to co-write and edit with Tomas Albrektsson and the late Per-Ingvar Brånemark. However, the major thrust of many fine osseointegration textbooks often precluded concise, coherent, and critical emphasis on long-term treatment outcomes for osseointegration's diverse applications. Moreover, published papers and meeting presentations may fall short of providing clinically useful syntheses of experientially determined, if infrequently documented, patient-mediated results. Prosthodontists have belatedly acknowledged shifts in societal pyramids with increases in patients' life expectancy, multimorbidity, and consequent treatment uncertainties. A prudent, patient-first approach inherent in an ecologically driven "reluctant prosthodontics" ethos has been challenged by an aggressively renewed "28-tooth syndrome" one, and interspeciality fault lines continue to underscore the erroneous notion that implant interventions are the treatment standard to manage all forms of partial and complete edentulism. The current practice narrative now offers the discipline a unique opportunity to assert its leadership role with far more robust scientific authority when planning prosthodontic treatment.

I therefore proposed this issue's monograph-like supplement, *On Implant Prosthodontics: One Narrative, Twelve Voices*, to our QPC publishers in order to provide our global readership with a wide-angle retrospective look at the osseointegration narrative. It was enthusiastically endorsed, and I invited John Hobkirk to partner me in the initiative. He and I have been good friends and work colleagues throughout our entire clinical and

academic careers and were privileged to have the opportunity to contribute to our discipline's landmark development through our own academic pursuits. We had also been academically enriched by numerous opportunities over a three-decade period to meet some of the very best minds in the field. We sought interviews with a selection of clinical scholars who contributed—indeed, continue to contribute—to osseointegration's unique role in the management of prosthodontic patients' needs across the age spectrum. We felt that inviting these scholars to separately address our posed questions, plus provide assessments of their careers and research trajectories, would provide a compelling synthesis of insights into the unique osseointegration narrative.

Our questions reflected experiences and concerns that evolved throughout our own practice and academic careers as osseointegration gained scholarly traction. We also solicited relevant questions from members of the IJP's editorial board, who share our view that gaps in overall knowledge regarding justification for routine osseointegration prescriptions still exist. Recruiting these colleagues' questions complemented the scope of the supplement and reflects a collective editorial engagement with the osseointegration narrative.

Starting in the early to mid 1980s, I partnered with several clinical researchers and educators—notably Ulf Lekholm, who conducted inspiring master classes in preprosthetic implant surgery—in multidisciplinary teaching efforts. Our endeavors reflected the unique synergies that continue to exist between academia and industry in many parts of the world, and Nobel Biocare played a significant role in this context. My own University of Toronto benefitted from this company's generous support for the creation of an Implant Prosthodontic Unit—a first in North America universities, where multidisciplinary educational and research opportunities for residents were provided in the relevant specialties—prosthodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, and periodontics—in a synergistic context that reconciled service, education, and research. All of us involved in the preparation of the supplement trust that it offers a provocative overview of the efficacy and effectiveness of the preprosthetic surgical and prosthodontic treatment revolution ushered in by Brånemark's work, as well as additional views regarding new technologies.

Gratitude is expressed once again to Nobel Biocare for its ongoing educational and research support in applied osseointegration and for supporting the printing of this supplement.

George A. Zarb
Editor-in-Chief

The seventh biennial

IJP/Karlsruhe Workshop for Young Prosthodontic Educators



The seventh biennial **IJP/Karlsruhe Workshop for Young Prosthodontic Educators** (YPE) will take place October 7–10, 2018 at the Institute for Continuing Professional Development in Karlsruhe, Germany. The Workshop will be funded by Nobel Biocare, the International College of Prosthodontists (ICP), the Academy of Australian and New Zealand Prosthodontists, and Quintessence Publishing Company. The ICP continues to support the workshop initiative by also providing limited and competitive assistance for participants.

These unique workshops are the result of the pro bono commitment of an international faculty of clinical educators selected from the IJP's editorial team. The workshops are organized by Professors George Zarb (Canada), Winfried Walther (Germany), John Hobkirk (United Kingdom), and Iven Klineberg (Australia) and seek to nurture younger clinical academics in their pursuit of scholarly leadership in the discipline. The selection is limited to 36 new and past participants for free registration for the 4-day program. All participants will be responsible for their own travel and accommodation arrangements and expenses.

Participation criteria

- New candidates should be early or mid-career, half-time or full-time clinical teachers; and preferably ICP members.
- Each candidate's application should include a current and concise one-page CV and a letter of endorsement from their program/discipline Head or Faculty Dean.
- All application letters should be mailed to the IJP office (ijp.prostho@utoronto.ca).

Registration deadline: June 1, 2018

The applicant list will be shared with the ICP administration office (icp@icp-org.com). Applications for financial assistance from the ICP should be separately and directly addressed to the ICP office.

Intended participants are urged to read the 2016 Workshop Report that appeared in the March/April 2017 issue.

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