
Editorial



The Chinese Journal of Dental Research has successfully published two issues since the policy changed in January 2007 to publishing original articles only. In this issue, the journal continues to publish articles not only from China, but also from other countries according to the new policy of 'open to the whole world'.

I would recommend you to read the invited review of 'Postnatal stem cell sources for tooth regeneration' from Professor Yan JIN et al, School of Stomatology, the Fourth Military Medical University, which is an interesting and hot topic in current dental research. The authors have done excellent work in this field and the review outlines current progress in postnatal stem-cell-based tooth regeneration. I believe it will give you the whole concept of this field. The article '*Shh* and *Ptch* expression in mouse embryonic craniofacial development' from Professor Song Ling WANG's group, Capital Medical University School of Stomatology, explores the potential roles of the two genes in the mouse embryonic craniofacial development.

Recently, attention has been paid to the relationship between dental status, especially periodontal status, and systemic health. The article 'Effects of dental care on glycaemic control in type 2 diabetes' is such a research work by authors from Peking University School of Stomatology and Faculty of Dentistry, The University of Hong Kong, showing that the receipt of dental care is related to a reduction in HbA_{1c} level in type 2 diabetes patients. We are very pleased to publish the article from Dr Sufyan Garoushi et al, Institute of Dentistry, University of Turku, Finland, concerning his work on dental materials about the 'Effect of particulate nanofillers on the surface microhardness of glass-fibre-reinforced filling composite resin'.

In the field of temporomandibular disorders (TMD), the article on 'Growth of the mandible after condylar reconstruction by autogenous coronoid process graft in goats' from Professor Jing HU's group, West China School of Stomatology, Sichuan University, represents basic research on condylar reconstruction, while the article 'A retrospective study on the prevalence of temporo-

mandibular disorders in 9,909 Chinese subjects with malocclusions prior to orthodontic treatment' from Dr Zhi Peng SUN et al, Peking University School of Stomatology, presents a more clinical view, discussing the related characteristics associated with TMD in patients with malocclusion before orthodontic treatment. Also in this issue, the article 'Reconstruction with extended vertical lower trapezius island myocutaneous flap for total glossectomy' from Professor Wei Liang CHEN et al, the Second Affiliated Hospital of Sun Yat-Sen University, introduces their experience of surgical reconstruction of the tongue after a carcinoma operation.

There are another two research articles in this issue: 'Oral health status of undergraduate dental students pursuing their career at a dental institution in India' by Dr Anmol Mathur et al, Darshan Dental College and Hospital, Udaipur, Rajasthan, India, and 'Influence of soft drink on salivary pH' by Dr Yalda Nozad Mojaver et al, Rafsanjan University of Medical Sciences, Dental School, Iran, showing their concerns about public oral health.

Although the article 'Neurovascular disturbance associated with implant placement in the anterior mandible and its surgical implications: literature review including report of a case' is presented in the column of 'Case Reports', Dr Xin LIANG et al, from the Faculty of Medicine, Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, provides a detailed and outstanding literature review that I believe will be very helpful to the readers of this field. Another case report from Dr Deng Gao LIU et al, Peking University School of Stomatology, introduces the behaviour of three cases of metastasis of renal cell carcinoma to the head and neck. Hopefully, this could serve as a reference for clinicians.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all peer reviewers for their great efforts in reviewing the manuscripts earnestly and precisely for the Chinese Journal of Dental Research in 2007.

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Editor-in-Chief