Annual Award for Clinical Research in Periodontology

Clinical Research Award recipients (left to right): *Drs Edwin S. Rosenberg, Dennis P. Tarnow, (Kenneth W. Bueltmann, 2001–02 AAP President), Stuart J. Froum, and Mea A. Weinberg.*

The **2002 Annual Award for Clinical Research in Periodontology** was presented to Drs Stuart J. Froum, Mea A. Weinberg, Edwin S. Rosenberg, and Dennis P. Tarnow at the 88th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP), which was held from September 25 to 28, 2002, in New Orleans. Their report, "A Comparative Study Utilizing Open Flap Debridement With and Without Enamel Matrix Derivative in the Treatment of Periodontal Intrabony Defects: A 12-Month Re-Entry Study," was published in the January 2001 issue of the *Journal of Periodontology.*

Each year, a single cash award is provided for an outstanding paper that has direct clinical relevance and application and is published in a refereed journal. The entries are judged by the Research Committee of the AAP. The award is supported by Quintessence Publishing Company, Inc, publisher of *The International Journal of Periodontics & Restorative Dentistry.*

This year's winning study compared intraosseous defects treated with open-flap debridement (OFD) alone to those treated with OFD and an enamel matrix derivative (EMD). Twenty-three subjects with at least two intrabony defects were chosen; 53 defects received EMD in conjunction with OFD, and 31 defects in the same subjects were treated with OFD alone. Soft tissue measurements were recorded prior to initial surgery and prior to 12-month reentry for gingival and plaque indices, probing depth, gingival margin position, and clinical attachment level. Hard tissue measurements were recorded during initial surgery and reentry for level of crestal bone and depth of defect. According to this study, treatment of periodontal intraosseous defects with EMD was clinically superior to treatment without EMD in every parameter evaluated. Furthermore, the percentage fill of osseous defects treated with EMD (74% defect fill with EMD vs 23% fill for control sites) compared favorably with treatment results using bone grafts or membrane barriers, according to published literature.