



The Fresh, Cool Breeze

Although this is not the first issue of the year, we consider the February QI to be the launching of our redesigned journal. The reasons are mainly related to the fact that some of the biggest

dental meetings of the year are taking place this month, so we have a unique opportunity to introduce the new QI to the world dental community.

We began the process of redesigning the journal by examining our goals for QI, a reputable journal that has always appealed to a high-end audience with diverse clinical and scientific interests: It should provide evidence-based data in all clinical procedures and biomaterials; it should include the clinical information that still constitutes the “art” of the dental profession to enable readers to promote their clinical skills; it should present information that is beneficial in differential diagnosis and treatment planning, as well as data that will extend beyond the traditional boundaries of the dental practice. All that had to be delivered in a contemporary, non-obtrusive, and easy-on-the-eye design.

The thoughts of a colleague whom I highly respect come to mind—that dentists are probably the most overqualified professionals for what they do, and the most underqualified professionals for what they should actually do. He has stated, and we all can agree, that for the mere task of drilling and filling, one would not require the extensive training we all have received—and, on the flip side, shouldn't we expand our horizons a little more and offer our patients proper diagnosis, treatment planning, and treatment that extends beyond what is considered traditional dental care? After all, dentists have access to so much relevant patient information and we see our patients so much more frequently than their

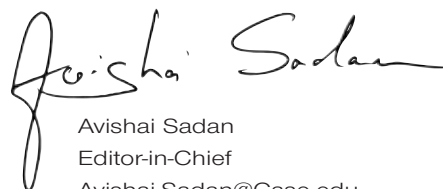
physicians do. We could and should process this information and provide better and more comprehensive care. For example, we are already offering our patients smoking cessation as part of routine treatment.

Not only do I agree with every word above and share the same vision, QI will rise to the challenge of expanding our professional horizons. The Nutrition & Oral Health column in this issue is a good example. Scheduled to appear in every other issue, it will include information that is useful for proper diagnosis, treatment planning, and counseling. I consider it only the beginning; if there are other topics that you think we should include, do not hesitate to let me know.

This is only the tip of the iceberg of a much larger discussion regarding the knowledge and skills that the dentist of the future should have. Believe me, we can and we should do so much more. I will offer this podium in the near future to the colleague I quoted above and ask him to share this unique and innovative vision with our readers.

When you review this issue, I think you will agree that we were able to create the desired—yet elusive—blend of all the aforementioned ingredients: from clinical and biomaterials research, to techniques, to oral medicine and diagnosis, to case reports, and that extra component that extends beyond the traditional role of a dentist.

Informative, relevant, exciting, comprehensive, and, oh yes, fun to read. I invite you to sit down, unwind, and enjoy the journal. Come feel the fresh, cool breeze of *Quintessence International*.



Avishai Sadan
Editor-in-Chief
Avishai.Sadan@Case.edu