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Editorial

Dental Hypotheses: Seeks to Publish Hypotheses from All Areas of Dentistry

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Starting a new open access journal in a rapid growing scientific panorama is a severe challenge. When something new like an open access journal is started, it usually begins for a reason. Someone has a dream or a purpose in mind. In the case of the new open access journal Dental Hypotheses (DH), Professor Kolahi's dream was a journal whose purpose is to provide a venue for dental professionals to challenge the prevailing ideas of our emerging profession. Open access journals like DH have become increasingly popular. A number of authors and funding authorities are taking this further, arguing that ethically all biomedical research should be published open access [1]. The clear citation advantage for open access articles should make publishing in the journal even more attractive to authors and reviewers [2].

However, the first issue of DH is now history and the even skeptics can appreciate that DH is a success – it is a journal of high quality that provides an outlet for publication of articles that encourage readers to question dental paradigms [3]. But DH readers might have noticed that the majority of the articles published in the first issue of DH concern clinical dentistry. Some articles were about dental diseases, some about dental treatments and still others about dental formulations. However, DH editors recognize that there are many other areas in dentistry that present challenges and that our readers may offer suggestions for their solution. Some of these challenges relate to: dental education; digital dental technology; tele-dentistry and access to dental care; dental practice issues, such as, dental office design, dental office management, the slow



rate of acceptance of innovative technology in the dental office; and issues related to innovation and dental entrepreneurship including intellectual property protection [4].

Another major area presenting a challenge is related to the dental workforce; that is, finding faculty for dental school teaching, both the clinical and basic sciences.

All these issues represent challenges for our profession. We wish to encourage our readers to reach out to their colleagues working in these areas and make them aware of DH and its interest in publishing articles that present hypotheses to address challenges in these areas. As indicated on the its website, the editorial policy of DH encourages articles presenting hypotheses on a broad spectrum of challenges to our profession. Please remember that there is a format for the presentation of your hypotheses and that this format is clearly defined on the DH website. We ask that your manuscript include a reasonable search of the literature and a clear and presentation of a hypothesis that lends itself to experimental testing.

The dental profession faces many challenges - in many areas - and with the publication of DH our profession has a venue for presentation of possible solutions. If you have developed a hypothesis that might help, please share it with your colleagues. As many have noted, the intellectual power of the global village in

which we now live is formidable. The internet has provided the technology to bring us together and DH has provided the venue. Please use it. New radical, speculative and non-mainstream scientific ideas are always welcome.

List of abbreviations

DH: Dental hypotheses.

Conflicts of interests

The author declares that he has no competing interest . ER has editorial involvement with the Dental Hypotheses.

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