

Editorial Opinion for Volume 2 Issue 1: Back to Basics in Tough Times

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We hear on a regular basis that prevention is better than cure. With readily available information to patients, they are becoming more aware of the treatments and causes of various ailments. Research and technology enabled dentistry to evolve and develop at an alarming rate; however, we need to concentrate on going back to basics every so often.

The case report by Lahoti et al. on the promising effect of the bionator device [1] displays the successful concept of going back to basics. As it is a well-known and proven device for correcting class II malocclusions in the growing patient. Many patients are opting for more affordable dental care and many are not able to have fixed orthodontic care. We are all familiar with the problems regarding patient compliance when treating young patients with removable appliances. The successful outcome of this patient may help in treating future patients and aid as a motivator for cooperation in using removable appliances.

Periodontal disease is a growing concern in the dental field and unfortunately goes unnoticed in children and adolescents as reported in the article by Shaddox and Miller [2]. The ease of diagnosing periodontitis by means of periodontal probing serves to prove there is no excuse for undiagnosed cases to slip through our fingers. Early detection and treatment of childhood periodontitis will serve a great purpose in preventing the progress into adult periodontitis and future expensive and invasive treatments.

An excellent research article by Schembri and Attard [3] pertaining to dental erosion in 8 and 15-year-old school children displays repeatable methodology in measuring dental erosive wear. Review of past research a result shows it to be a great concern in the young dentition, and is evident in the results of this article that the problem is yet to be eradicated. Recognition of the associated and contributing factors to dental erosive wear will aid in the elimination of the cause and allow proper treatment and not just symptomatic treatment as is the current trend.

Reviewing the efficacy of two newly pulp medicaments used in primary molars pulpotomy by Badran et al. [4] aids in the decision making process in treating such cases with success. Ongoing research and availability of new materials like Biodentine and MTA (Mineral trioxide aggregate) allow us to eventually eliminate outdated products with proven carcinogenic and mutagenic effects. However, proven to be excellent medicaments, both the tested materials are very technique sensitive and expensive. Additional studies will need to be initiated in order to determine the economic impact of using such materials as opposed to more invasive, yet less expensive treatment options.

The article from Karimi [5] on the causes of halitosis in children reflects the concept of going back to basics in order to treat patients more effectively. By means of distinguishing the possible causes of halitosis will enable the parent to detect problems at an early stage. Following the recommendations suggested by the author enables the parents to eliminate any possible localised causes of halitosis and thereby possible early detection of systemic diseases if present.

A thorough research article reflecting excellent and reliable methodology on the socio-economic impact on tooth wear in children by Schembri and Attard [6] reiterates the lack of basic dental education in the community. It shows the great involvement of dietary habits

and the level of education from the parents on the prevalence of tooth erosion in children. It is the duty of the educators and parents in the lives of these children to establish good oral hygiene habits and good dietary choices in children at an early age. Emphasis should be put on providing education and information to parents regarding the various dangers and interventions on tooth erosion.

The first issue from Volume 2 of the Pediatric Dental Care Journal allows reflection on bringing back the basics of education and dental care on a primary health care basis. By means of publishing the reviews, discussions and reports of such esteemed and eminent authors, The Pediatric Dental Care journal provides the public with important and valuable information that can be applied in everyday clinics. We can look forward to access more exciting articles in the upcoming issues of this eminent journal.

References

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