



**European Society of Endodontology**

**Young Educator Grant 2016**

The European Society of Endodontology (ESE) awards a young educator grant.

**Award 4,400 Euros to Obyda Essam**



**Project: Development of new digital Endodontic Case Assessment Tool.**

Endodontic treatments can vary significantly in their complexity, some cases can be uncomplicated and require relatively basic core skills and experience to achieve a predictable outcome; other cases may require a longer clinical time and command more advanced technical skills and expertise. There is always a legal and ethical obligation when determining the difficulty of any form of dental treatment, in order to ensure the treatment is carried out in the best interests of the patient by a suitably competent clinician. The Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE) and the European Society of Endodontology (ESE) undergraduate competency guidelines refer to the graduating European dentist as being competent in the management of 'uncomplicated' anterior and posterior teeth, yet neither clearly defines what is meant by uncomplicated.

Several paper-based assessment forms exist, including the American Association of Endodontists (AAE), the Dutch Endodontic Treatment Index and the England RCS restorative treatment index have been used for similar purposes. However, little research has been undertaken to assess the validity and reliability of these tools. Despite their benefits, they are found to be relatively time consuming and less user-friendly. The current study incorporates elements of existing case assessment forms into a more intuitive evidence based assessment tool. Similar to the ITI implants "SAC" tools, a new digital Endodontic Case Assessment Tool (named E-CAT) is being developed as part of a doctorate research the University of Liverpool to classify endodontic treatments. Dental educators and professional will be able to use the E-CAT to define different level of complexities into one of the following categories:

1 - Uncomplicated, low risk of adverse outcome - treatment to be carried out by recent dental graduates or dentists without further enhanced experience in endodontics.

2- Moderately complicated, moderate risk of adverse outcome; treatment to be provided by experienced dentists or practitioners who have had further non-specialist training.

3- Highly complicated, high risk of adverse outcome; treatment to be provided by recognised specialists in Endodontics.

An aim of this research is therefore to develop and maintain a tool to reliably define the different levels of complexity of endodontic cases for educational and professional use. This ultimately can define that 'uncomplicated' category in the ADEE and ESE guidelines and help provide a baseline level of competence as reference point.

### **Obyda Essam**

Obyda qualified from Newcastle University, United Kingdom, with a Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) and completed further foundation training at the Dental Northern Deanery, North East England. He then practiced in a number of general dental practices in the North West when he decided undertake the Membership of the Joint Dental Faculty at the Royal College of Surgeons in London (MJDF RCS Eng) in 2012.

Obyda later joined the University of Liverpool as a teaching fellow in Endodontology and commenced a 3 year full-time speciality training post and clinical professional doctorate degree in Endodontics (DDSc Endodontics) in 2014. He is currently an honorary Specialty Registrar in Endodontics at Higher Education North West HENW. Obyda's ongoing research focuses on accurate assessment of endodontic cases complexity and assessing the prevalence of complex endodontic cases in the general dental practice in the UK. Alongside his clinical practice, He is actively involved in teaching and training undergraduate dental students at Liverpool. In addition to attending national and international conferences, Obyda is a member of the British Dental Association, British Endodontic Society and the European Society of Endodontology.