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european society of endodontology

Dear Colleague and Member of the ESE

Welcome to the second Newsletter of the European Society of Endodontology!

It has been my pleasure to co-ordinate the production of this 2nd ESE Newsletter as the Executive Board attempts to keep you more directly informed about ESE activities. It is our intention to publish at least one Newsletter per year with items on the key matters debated by the Executive Board and Country Representatives, along with news from member societies and individuals; we will also be updating you on key topics influencing Endodontology, such as the proposed International Association of Endodontology and, in future editions, on matters relating to the speciality of Endodontics within Europe.

The Biennial Congress is now taking place in Istanbul and I am confident those of you attending will appreciate the array of speakers and the thought provoking programme developed by the local Organizing Committee. I am sure you would like to join

me and thank those responsible for the 13th ESE Congress for all their hard work and commitment. As Istanbul is a very exciting city to visit, I am sure attendees will take the opportunity of not only participating in the Congress on the 6-8th of September, but also experiencing the rich history and culture of Turkey. Of special note is the ESE 25th Anniversary! A celebration party will be held during the congress to mark the occasion and welcome back many of the founder members.

Included in this edition are reports from the ESE President, Gunnar Bergenholtz, a report on the International Endodontic Journal during 2006, an update on the Istanbul meeting and a few short items on Endodontics in the Scandinavian countries. You will also read about the upgrading of the ESE web-site and a recent meeting of the Executive Board. Finally, the winners of the 2006 Annual ESE Research Grant are announced.

In the coming months many national endodontic societies will be holding meetings and congresses. I would be grateful if officers of these societies could let me have reports from relevant events including photographs where possible – I will then attempt to include the reports in future Newsletters. In addition, please let me know of improvements you wish to see in the Newsletter or any items you want to be considered for inclusion. Contact me on iejeditor@cardiff.ac.uk

See you in Istanbul!

Paul Dummer, Editor of the ESE

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Message from the ESE President, Gunnar Bergenholtz

Dear Colleague and Member of the ESE

It is our great pleasure on the Executive Board to present the second ESE Newsletter to you. Many thanks to our editor Paul Dummer, who put it all together.

Keeping the membership abreast of what precipitates within our grand organization is an important objective of this communication. In this Newsletter, for example, you will find a report by Lars Björndahl on the Scandinavian Endodontic Society Meeting in Helsingör last autumn. Certainly, we would also like to mirror other meetings and events to reflect all of the activities within the various member societies of the ESE. Of course, the Biennial Congress is our flagship, and the 13th Congress is under-way. The Organizing Committee has worked hard to assemble a most stimulating program featuring both well-established speakers and new, upcoming young stars.

I am sure you will also take the opportunity when attending the Congress from September 6-8th to visit the ancient culture and vibrant commercial city of Istanbul. This year we will also celebrate the 25th Anniversary of our organization, that was conceived and established in 1982 by twelve colleagues during a meeting in Phoenix, USA. Since then the ESE has grown tremendously and now encompasses no fewer than 27 full member societies with close to 6,000 individual members. In Istanbul we will meet some of the founders and salute them for their vision and efforts.

As part of the ESE mission to support the advancement of endodontology for improvement of patient care, we have undertaken considerable efforts in recent years to set a basis for broad recognition of endodontics as a clinical dental specialty in Europe. Thanks to the excellent work of a committee led by Kishor Gulabivala, we now have guidelines

and protocols in place for educational programmes and ESE certification of institutions that will offer post-graduate education in endodontics (see the ESE website, <http://www.e-s-e.eu>). We hope that this measure will encourage many more countries in Europe to formally accept endodontics as a clinical dental specialty. Currently the endodontic specialty enjoys official recognition in Norway, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. However, programmes offering post-graduate endodontic training exist in several more European countries. Outside of Europe, but a member society of the ESE, Israel also recognizes endodontics as a specialty. A distinct challenge is now to seek approval of our specialty on the EU-level - a difficult task that will require a well-thought-out strategy. At our General Assembly Meeting in Istanbul I hope that we can assemble a group of individuals, who are willing to serve on a committee charged with exactly this mission.

The ESE also sees itself in a global context. Over the past few years it has participated in negotiations to form an international organization with the aim to stimulate global collaboration on issues critical to the future of endodontology. In a Letter of Intent issued by the Steering Committee and published here, you can study this initiative and its objectives. In Istanbul the General Assembly will discuss and hopefully ratify the Constitution and Bylaws of this new organization named the International Association of Endodontology.

Looking forward to seeing you in Istanbul.

Gunnar Bergenholtz, President of the ESE

LETTER OF INTENT

International Association of Endodontology

In response to a growing demand for communication and cooperation among endodontic organizations throughout the world, a group of committed endodontic leaders from various organizations initiated dialogue to explore how to best meet the future needs of endodontics. As a result of many thoughtful and candid discussions about the desire for enhanced cooperation, a consensus was reached to create a mechanism to address issues facing our clinical specialty. The Asian Pacific Endodontic Confederation (APEC), the European Society of Endodontology (ESE) and the American Association of Endodontists (AAE) together with the Canadian Academy of Endodontics (CAE) (to be organized in a North-American regional society), now have decided to pursue the formation of an international organization. As this new organization,

called the International Association of Endodontology (IAE), is in the process of being constituted, this letter is issued to briefly inform you about plans, management structure and mode by which the organization will operate.

The name of the organization was taken to give emphasis to its primary purpose namely to serve as a support structure for international collaboration on subject matters of significance to the advancement of both the science and practice of endodontics. Various issues which ultimately would improve patient care through research and education and would require global communication and cooperation were identified. Areas of concentration were targeted. These topics include research, education, clinical practice and patient service. To bring about progress within these specific areas, aims and potential support activities were outlined:

Research

Aims: Proactively identify areas of research relevant to endodontics, stimulate research in these areas, and facilitate international collaboration amongst researchers.

Example of support activity: Well-known researchers in the various areas of our discipline will be asked to provide opinions and delineate clinical and research topics/areas suitable for State of Science Conferences and Position Statements on topics of critical importance to endodontics.

Education

Aims: Assist with the development of standards for endodontic education worldwide, encourage international accreditation of endodontic specialty training programs, provide opportunities for interaction among the international educator community, and provide support for endodontic departments worldwide.

Example of support activity: Formation of educator forum of international educators and assembly of an international faculty for distance learning.

Clinical Practice

Aims: Promote recognition of endodontics as a specialty in dentistry; assist in compilation, promotion and dissemination of the best practice evidence; and facilitate international acceptance of accredited specialty training programs in endodontics.

Example of support activity: Provide clinical forum/conferences focusing on critical issues/controversies in endodontics.

Service

Aims: Respond to critical issues challenging endodontics; represent our members with the public, profession and governing bodies; and collect, assimilate, and make available information on topics relevant to endodontics.

Example of support activity: Compile database of information relating to practice of endodontics, i.e. registry of endodontics specialty training programs, licensure requirements for different countries, create a directory of the academic workforce.

By addressing issues facing endodontics in a timely manner, the IAE will facilitate sharing of information and knowledge within our profession in an effort to promote the highest level of patient care. This new organization is not supposed to replace any existing organization or to become a union of Endodontists representing their individual needs. Rather it hopes to include all individuals around the world who carry a special interest for the advancement of Endodontology.

In order to achieve a convenient organizational structure, IAE will be made up of societies that have a basis in a world region and not by country societies or individual members. Although Asia-Pacific, Europe and North-America will become the first regions to be represented within the IAE, it is expected that South America and Africa, in due time, will be part of the organization as well.

The governance of the IAE will be stratified into two layers. There will be a General Assembly with representatives from the various member regions. The primary function of this body is to decide policy matters and to elect the Executive Board, which will have the responsibility of the day to day running of the organization. In order to ensure effective operation of the IAE, an administrative office with an Executive Director will be created. The developmental work within the organization will be performed by individuals who, for a limited period of time, are willing to donate their effort to serve on standing committees and task forces with specific charges addressing the objectives of the IAE.

It is anticipated that the IAE will hold a meeting for the exchange of education, research and clinical practice information every 2 to 4 years. These meetings will be held separately or in conjunction with regional congresses organized by a regional member society.

The members of the Steering Committee hope that this new initiative will receive acceptance and support as we are convinced that advancement of Endodontology, in current times, requires international collaboration and net-working. Every individual will be important for the accomplishment of the IAE mission. For further information please contact any member of the Steering Committee.

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ESE WEBSITE

What is new?

Apart from a more modern layout, only the technology "behind" our website has been changed. This does not have a direct effect on the user, although some improvements are obvious immediately, such as a more effective search engine, which is now available on every page. The contact forms have been restructured, and thus every sender will receive a copy of his/her mail to us, and the incoming mails include the e-mail addresses of the senders. This is especially good, because with the "old" ESE website we had no way of contacting a person once someone had misspelled his return e-mail address.



The sections for CREps and CMs have been enhanced. Furthermore, RSS feed is now available; experienced internet users will know that once this function is activated, you will be informed automatically about the news on this site. This is called "subscribing to the news", but this is merely the creation of a book mark (established for example with Outlook 2007), and will not cost anything.



Additionally, it is now possible to print pages much more easily (there is a "print" button on every page). Only relevant data will be printed, and this is a considerable improvement. Up until now the entire navigation was printed along with the information. Naturally, you still have that option by printing via the browser.

The ESE web site is frequently visited. Its new layout, improved ease of use, and its continuing upgrade should reflect to the user, that the ESE is a modern European scientific society. Although it is a voluntary organisation, the ESE is committed to pursue its goals including optimizing its organizational structures and ability to respond to members requests and ambitions. Furthermore, the ESE Executive Board intends using the website, not only as a provider for information (for example, addresses), but also for interactive communication with its members and as point of contact for patients in need of advice.

Report on International Endodontic Journal activity during 2006

It is my pleasure to provide the following report on the activity of the *International Endodontic Journal* during 2006.

During 2006, 112 scientific papers were published. Ninety four of the papers were Original Scientific Articles, 7 were Reviews and 11 were classified as Clinical Articles/Case Reports. Overall, the number of pages included in the *Journal* throughout the year was 992 with 903 pages devoted to articles and the remainder taken-up by news/calendar items, research abstracts etc. The *Journal* continued to subsidise the publication of abstracts, notices of meetings and other news items from the affiliated societies, including the European Society of Endodontology.

A total of 393 new manuscripts were received during 2006 compared to 373 in 2005; thus, the average number of submissions per month increased to approximately 33 from 31. Of these new manuscripts 306 were Original Scientific Articles, 8 were Review Articles and 79 were Clinical Articles/Case reports. The 393 papers were submitted from 50 countries, a new record for the *Journal*, with a large proportion coming from developing countries such as Brazil (26%) and Turkey (12%), as well as the traditional sources such as Italy (8%), UK (5%), Germany and Japan (4%) and USA (3%).

A number of pages were devoted to ESE activities, including the promotion of the Congress in Istanbul as well as notices calling for the submission of research abstracts and for entries to the research prize. The *Journal* also promoted the ESE Research Grant, the Hans Genet award and continued to subsidise news items from other affiliated societies.

The average period from submission to publication was 317 days in 2006 down from 321 in 2005. The time between acceptance and publication for scientific papers published during 2006, was 166 days; this increased from 132 in 2005 and is due to the large number of manuscripts accepted in 2006 and the back-log that has built-up. On a positive note, 'On-line Early' has allowed papers to be published on the *IEJ* web site before they appear in hard copy print. Using this recently introduced facility new articles are available as soon as the proofs have been approved and well in advance of the hard copies being printed. This provides a significant advantage for authors and allows readers to remain aware of the most up-to-date literature.

The final rejection rate for 2006 is not yet available; in 2005 the figure was over 60%. For information, the rejection rate of papers rose from 31% in 1999 to over 50% from 2002 onwards. Although this may be disappointing for some authors, from the perspective of the *Journal* the higher

rejection rate is reflected in a steady improvement in the quality of papers that are published. The rejection rate does vary by country, with some countries having all their papers rejected and others having a rejection rate below 10% (Denmark, Australia, Norway, Switzerland). This variation is not surprising as it tends to reflect the maturity of the academic environment, the training and experience of academic staff; and the availability of research facilities. Another initiative to improve quality was taken in 2005 when we published an editorial that urged authors to comply with the CONSORT guidelines for the reporting of clinical trials. This initiative, led by Professor Robert Newcombe (the *IEJ* Statistician), has been complemented by further editorial comments linked to specific papers that have referred to various issues relating to the statistical analysis and reporting of research data.

We have increased our pool of referees to 135 to reduce the burden and share the load amongst more people. With the new on-line system reports are returned much more rapidly and the first decision is now made within 35 days on average. The quality of reports submitted by referees is a key parameter in the enhancement of the *Journal* and I am most grateful for the voluntary commitment they make on behalf of the *IEJ*.

The Impact Factor of the *IEJ* has fallen to 1.429 making it the 23rd ranked journal out of the 49 included in the analysis. This modest fall in the Impact Factor combined with a lower rank (21st in 2006) suggests that the Impact Factor of competitor journals rose to a greater extent than the *IEJ*. Clearly, this is an issue of concern as a high Impact Factor, for all the flaws in the methodology, is seen to be a reflection of the quality of a scientific journal. The Editorial Board have developed an action plan to ensure the *IEJ* retains its position as a leading journal in the field of Endodontology.

The Editorial Board and referees have given me great help with the evaluation of papers. Special thanks must be extended to the Assistant Editor, Dr John Whitworth. He and others have worked extremely hard and it is only with their considerable efforts that the quality of papers is enhanced. I must also thank Mrs Susan Bryant, the Editorial Co-ordinator, who has day-to-day responsibility for running the Editorial Office. Susan has developed an extensive database of *Journal* activity and this has been extended further in order to enable the monitoring and review of a range of factors that impact on the editorial process.

As an integral part of their marketing strategy the *IEJ* was made available online as far back as the 1999 volume; currently, there are plans to extend this to 1980, the first volume of the *Journal*. This reflects the importance that Blackwell attaches to the *IEJ* and their perception of the *Journal* as a leading, quality international publication. Clearly, the availability of the *Journal* online is exciting and one that

we are confident will enhance its status. The *Journal* web pages on the Blackwell site (<http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/iej>) is also popular. With the growth in on-line access for individuals, institutions, various consortia arrangements with libraries, and with access schemes for the developing world the readership of the *IEJ* is healthy. Increased on-line readership has occurred following a number of initiatives, including an arrangement with Google that takes advantage of their search engine. The total readership for on-line articles increased by 46% in 2004 with over 150,000 articles downloaded and by a further 26% in 2005 with well over 200,000 articles downloaded; provisional figures for 2006 suggest a further increase of 45,000. The Subscriptions rates for last year were increased only marginally, however, every attempt was made to limit the increase for affiliated societies, including the ESE. Student subscription rates have been maintained at a most competitive level.

Blackwell Publishing Ltd continues to be proactive and keen to improve the service they provide. In February 2007 Blackwell Publishing Ltd merged with John Wiley and Sons Ltd. The indications are that this merger will add value to the services provided by the publisher, although it is too early to assess the impact.

We are confident that both specialists and general practitioners will welcome the continuation of the clinical section (Editor: John Whitworth). We also hope it will ensure the various national societies retain their affiliation and, indeed, that other societies will make new arrangement with Blackwell Munksgaard to receive the *Journal* for its members at the considerably reduced rates they are entitled to.

A major initiative introduced during 2005 was the launch of on-line submission and refereeing using the Manuscript Central web site that manages the Blackwell portfolio of journals. On-line submission and refereeing is an advantage to authors who are now able to upload their manuscripts electronically and then monitor their progress through the editorial process. For referees there are also advantages as they can now receive manuscripts and submit their reports electronically.

In summary, the International Endodontic Journal is in a most healthy state and one that provides leadership in research and clinical practice. We are delighted to be the official journal of the European Society of Endodontology and a number of other affiliated societies. I look forward to working with the ESE to enhance our understanding of pulp and periapical disease in the expectation this will lead to an improvement in clinical practice.

Paul Dummer

Editor

Report from Istanbul on the 13th ESE Congress

Dear Members, Colleagues and Friends,

The 13th Biennial Congress of the European Society of Endodontology, one of the biggest meetings of the European Endodontic Society, has begun! As the host of such a great meeting we are very excited.

We commenced our work for this congress several years ago, and we are very happy to see what we have achieved.

Indeed, there has been such a great interest in the meeting, we may have to cancel onsite registrations.

We hope to see you in Istanbul during one of the most pleasant seasons of Istanbul.

Sedat Küçükay

President of the Turkish Endodontic Society and Chairman of the Organising Committee

Gündüz Bayırlı

Congress President

Scientific Program

The programme for Istanbul 2007, including the one-day pre-congress courses is a four day event, and includes a total of 33 speakers from Europe and beyond.

A substantial effort has been made to include new topics and speakers in the hope of enhancing the scientific quality and scope of the presentations and in order to introduce new, fresh faces. The programme has been arranged carefully so that the topic of each oral presentation, and the session that it is included into, has a common theme with the aim of covering the key areas in a comprehensive, in-depth approach. To achieve this, common themes and topics have been selected both for the dental practitioners and for academics.

In addition to the scientific program of the congress, 68 free oral presentations, 183 clinical posters with a total of 251 abstracts have been submitted through the Congress website.

Social Programme

Four special evening events have been organized.

September 5, 2007 - Opening Cocktail - Hilton Hotel, Istanbul

All participants can attend this eagerly awaited cocktail reception free of charge. Cold and hot dishes will be served along with alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. This special night will have live music and has been supported by our sponsors.

September 6, 2007 - ESE 25th Year Anniversary Night-Feriye Restaurant

All participants can attend this very special night free of charge which has been planned to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the ESE. The event will provide spectacular views of the Bosphorus and be held at one of the exceptional restaurants of Istanbul, Feriye Restaurant. Vals Orchestra, one of the well known Turkish orchestras, will take stage with their wide

ranging repertoire of world music. There will be many other surprises that are still being planned for this special night. This event has been supported by our sponsors.

September 7, 2007 - Bosphorus Tour - Ta kent Tekneleri

All participants of the congress can attend this event with a payment of 65 EUR. Ta kent Tekneleri will provide the service for this wonderful world famous Bosphorus tour. During the tour participants will have the opportunity to watch the sunset over the Asian-European shores connecting the Sea of Marmara with the Black Sea, and sparkles of the night. There will be cocktail drinks followed by an open- buffet dinner. Live music will include such selections as Latin, jazz, and cha cha alternatives.

September 8, 2007 - Gala Dinner – Sait Halim Paşa Yalısı

All congress participants can attend this event, which will be held at the historical seaside mansion, Sait Halim Paşa Yalısı, with a payment of 100 EUR. Sait Halim Paşa Yalısı was built in 1863 but has undergone a number of renovations. There will be a cocktail party followed by dinner in the gardens of the mansion with live music .

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15th Biennial Scandinavian Endodontic Congress - The Oresund Region

Lo-Skolen, Helsingør, Denmark 17th- 19th August, 2006

From the 17th-19th of August 2006 the Scandinavian Endodontic Society held its 15th Biennial Endodontic Congress in Helsingør. One hundred society members participated from the Danish, Finnish, Norwegian and Swedish endodontic societies. The Scandinavian Endodontic Society can be described as friendly and informal but also a highly devoted group that meets every second year. Besides the societies mentioned above it also encompasses the Icelandic society. The program was this year presented in English and included participants from Latvia as well! The meeting was a good mixture of informal social events and a high standard scientific program with invited Scandinavia speakers. The program was this year put together by Kerstin Petersson (Sweden) and Lars Bjørndal (Denmark) and the organising committee included Helena Fransson (Sweden), Merete Markvart (Denmark) and Eva Wolf (Sweden). Some of the themes and visions of this year's programme addressed issues relating to general practitioners – as they are the clinicians who are performing the vast majority of endodontic-related treatments today. Such issues included the use of treatment guidelines that have the best evidence base, and to understand why they are important. The final day included an update in our understanding of biofilms in general and of course in relation to the infected root canal. The invited speakers and moderators were Madeleine Rohlin (Sweden), Kerstin Knutsson (Sweden), Claes Reit (Sweden), Lars Bjørndal (Denmark), Kerstin Petersson (Sweden), Lise-Lotte Kirkevang (Denmark), Vibe Rud (Denmark), Jens Ove Andreasen (Denmark), Preben Hørsted-Bindslev (Denmark), Gunnar Bergenholtz (Sweden), Gunnel Svensäter (Sweden), Luis Eduardo Chávez de Paz Villanueva (Sweden) and Gunnar



Dahlén (Sweden). A poster session highlighting actual and ongoing endodontic research trends in Scandinavia was also organised. In 2008 the 16th meeting will be held in Göteborg, Sweden.

The sponsors were: Sendoline, Maillefer, SE BRA, Dandental, Unident, Oriola, Carita, Carl Zeiss, Dental Therapeutics, Rønvig Dental Mfg, Danish Dental Association, Association of Public Health Dentists in Denmark

Lars Bjørndal



Participants at the Scandinavian Endodontic Society 15th Biennial Congress in Helsingør.

Endodontology now a recognized specialty in Norway

After several years of arguments and deliberations, the Norwegian health authorities recognized Endodontology as a dental specialty, effective January 1, 2007. Prosthodontics and Maxillofacial Radiology were recognized at the same time, bringing the number of clinical specialties in dentistry in Norway to seven, with Oral Surgery, Orthodontics, Pedodontics and Periodontology established decades ago.

There have been postgraduate programs at the Universities of Oslo and Bergen since the early 80's, and over the years more than 50 candidates have completed the courses and served as de facto, if not formally acknowledged, endodontic specialists in Norway. Through a grandfathering clause in the new regulations for acceptance as a specialist, these are now eligible and many obtained the specialty status in the first round of applications in May of this year.

This brought a special status to the annual meeting of the Norwegian Endodontic Society, which held its annual meeting at the beautiful location of Solstrand Hotel near Bergen on the 15th and 16th of June. Some 40 participants enjoyed two days of scientific, clinical and social get-together; the scenic West Coast of Norway presenting with the very best weather and a stunning landscape. The meeting also celebrated the graduation of 3 new specialists from the University of Oslo, who had been examined by visiting professor, Dr. Asgeir Sigurdsson of Reykjavik/London.

Dag Ørstavik Oslo, Norway



Meeting of the Executive Board

The Executive Board held a meeting in Tübingen, Germany on 17th March 2007. The official meeting was preceded by informal discussion on the 15th and 16th March that allowed more time for various key issues to be discussed and strategic decisions debated.

Items included in the meeting:

- Reports from the President, Secretary, Treasurer and Editor
- Report from the Research Committee – including a report on the Annual Research Grant for 2006 (5 applications received; 2 funded), the Research Posters for Istanbul (112 abstracts received - over 90 accepted) and the Wladimir Adlivankine Prize (3 submissions – none accepted)
- Update on the 13th ESE Biennial Congress in Istanbul
- Application to host the 15th ESE Biennial Congress from Italy
- Discussions over the development of guidelines and a contract between the ESE and the national dental/endodontic society hosting a Biennial Congress
- The ESE Newsletter
- The ESE website
- Membership applications from national societies and individuals
- A report on the recent ADEE meeting that discussed the Profile and Competences of a European Dentist
- Accreditation of Speciality Programmes in Endodontics
- Links with dental companies – the Endodontic Forum
- The International Association of Endodontology
- Problems communicating with CRs, national societies and individual members, and the need for an ESE Communication Strategy along with accurate e-mail addresses
- The Executive Board action plan covering on-going activities and initiatives



The Executive Board from the left – Claus Löst, Paul Dummer, Carmen Buckley, Işil Küçükay, Dag Ørstavik, Lynda Elliot, Gunnar Bergenholtz



From the left – Hakki Sunay, Carmen Buckley, Gunnar Bergenholtz, Paul Dummer, Lynda Elliot, Claus Löst, Işil Küçükay, Dag Ørstavik

ESE Annual Research Grant

The 2006 ESE Annual Research Grant was awarded to two applicants – Hagay Shemesh (ACTA, The Netherlands) and Colin Murray (Glasgow, UK)

Hagay Shemesh is a Clinical instructor and PhD student (supervised by Paul Wesselink and Min-Kai Wu) at ACTA, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. From 1997-2000 Hagay was a student on the Post - Graduate program in Endodontology, Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Dental Medicine. He passed the Israeli board exams in Endodontology of the Israeli Ministry of Health Diploma in 2000.



Hagay Shemesh

The title of his project was - Glucose penetration and fluid transport through coronal root structure and filled root canals. The purpose being to compare leakage through root structure with leakage through the coronal part of root filled canals using both the glucose penetration model and the fluid transport model. Leakage studies assume that the relevant tracer penetrates through and along the root canal filling but do not check the possibility that the tracer might penetrate the dentinal tubules and thus compromise the conclusions of these studies. This project further compared the penetration of glucose and the transport of fluid through the coronal part of two different root canal filling materials- gutta-percha with AH26 and Resilon with Epiphany sealer. The conclusions from this study were that no leakage occurred through root structure while the filled canals were associated with penetration of glucose regardless of the filling material used.

Colin Murray is a Clinical Senior Lecturer in Restorative Dentistry and an Honorary Consultant. His project was titled: Does photoactivated disinfection (PAD) improve clinical outcomes of root canal re-treatment in-vivo and is it effective upon in-vitro root canal biofilms?



Colin Murray

It is evident that contemporary disinfection techniques in root canal re-treatment procedures reduce the bacterial load within infected root canals. However, it is repeatedly established that elimination of bacteria in teeth with failed RCT is more difficult than in primary cases, thereby leading to further persistent disease in a significant proportion of cases. Clearly, the overall effectiveness of current chemomechanical techniques is suboptimal and *E. faecalis* likely plays a central role in non-healing cases. Although alternative disinfectant irrigants such as povidone iodine have been suggested, they are potentially as toxic to host tissues as conventional irrigants. Therefore, this study will investigate in vivo whether a novel non-toxic photoactivated

disinfection procedure improves clinical outcomes in root canal re-treatment procedures and relate this to its effect upon root canal biofilms in vitro. The specific aims and objectives of the study are:

- To determine, in vivo, if PAD decontaminates root canals to a greater extent than current conventional disinfection procedures in root canal re-treatment.
- To establish if PAD improves clinical outcomes in root canal re-treatment procedures.
- From clinical and radiographic reassessment, to determine in vivo if the degree of periradicular bony infill is accelerated by PAD, as claimed by the manufacturers.
- Using an in vitro biofilm model, to elucidate the effectiveness of PAD in disrupting and disinfecting biofilms composed of bacteria commonly associated with failed root canal treatment (RCT) in comparison to contemporary disinfection regimens

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