

A word from the guest editor

Dear Colleagues,

It is a great pleasure and honor for me, to be part of the editorial team for the March 2016 issue of this fast developing scientific journal. SANAMED represents a new bridge connecting the dental teaching and research community from different regional and global institutions. We appreciate the given opportunity to present original research works from Bulgaria.

Let me introduce the team of the department of Oral pathology and Imaging diagnostics of the Faculty of Dental Medicine of the Medical University of Sofia.

The Medical University of Sofia is the oldest institution of higher medical education in Bulgaria. The Faculty of Dental medicine, as part of the MU is a national educational, scientific and medical institution, providing dental education to Bulgarian and Foreign students in Bulgarian and English language, according to Bulgarian medical school traditions and the EU principles of harmonization of dental education.

The Faculty of Dental Medicine consists of eight departments. The 'youngest' one, the 'Department of Oral Pathology and Image Diagnostics', headed by the eminent scientist Prof. Angelina Kisselova, has two units "Image diagnostics" headed by Prof. Hristina Mihailova and "Oral diagnostics" headed by Assoc. prof. Asya Krasteva. An X-rays unit with 3 dental doctors – Ass. Prof. Dr. Yovchev, Dr. Borisov, Dr. Kishkilova and 7 X-rays operators are associated.

The courses included in the programme of the department cover the fields of: "Image diagnostics", "Oral diagnostics", "Dental clinical allergology", and "Oral pathology".

The undergraduate course of "Dental clinical allergology", led by Assoc. Prof. Maria Dencheva, and Ass. Prof. Mariana Tsekova, is recently introduced into the program with the task to teach prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of patients with allergic medical conditions with oral cavity and maxillofacial area expression.

The undergraduate course of "Oral pathology", led by Assoc. Prof. PhD and Ass. Prof. Mariana Tsekova, is focused on the identification and management of systemic diseases affecting the oral and maxillofacial areas. The training course in Oral Pathology (diagnosis) provide students with knowledge and skills to perform a comprehensive overview on the patient's health and to detect the factors responsible for the onset and specific course of systemic diseases and their impact on maxillo-facial manifestations. The course consists of 30 classes including 15 lectures and 15 clinical exercises.



These textbooks and monographs are published to assist undergraduate dental students' performance.

As these disciplines were recently introduced in the new dental curriculum in the Dental school of the Medical university of Sofia, the research and teaching methods are getting improved simultaneously.

The selection of papers was made with the aim to make you familiar with interdisciplinary fields and the implementation of research into education and practice of dentistry.

The first paper reflects the latest research on the influence of common allergens from the professional environment on dental students, dental professionals, and dental technicians when in contact. The second paper presents the observation on the effect of bleaching as a modern approach in esthetic dentistry while taking into consideration the safety parameters of performance.

I hope, all of us will agree that, only through sharing ideas, concepts and scientific findings, we will be able to achieve methodological growth and experience with the science and art of dentistry. SANAMED is a good example of such a cooperation. Therefore, we hope the publications will rise further discussions and common projects.

I would like to express my gratitude towards the notable work of authors and reviewers and to wish the longevity of the Journal SANAMED and the sincerest regards to the wonderful editorial board.

Sincerely,

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