

The Hong Kong Dental Journal

Over the past decades, the Hong Kong Dental Association (HKDA) has supported a number of publications of its own in Hong Kong. Formerly, all the official reports of the association and the scientific contributions from the members were published in the HKDA Year Book. At that time, it served the function to make record and tracking of local practice experience in along with the activities of many dental service sectors. Until 92/93, the Year Book was re-named as Biennial Report to reconcile the changeover of a two-year term of office for the association councilors. An energized breakthrough was further acknowledged by Dr. Tony Fok, the incumbent Chairman of Publications Committee, in the Millennium Report 2000 that "...*Volume II contains the HKDA members' scientific contributions which is one step closer to having our own journal - The HKDA Dental Journal in the near future...*". Hong Kong deserves a good dental journal of its own. In early 2003 the Council of the Hong Kong Dental Association has appointed the Executive Editorial Board to start the preparation of Hong Kong Dental Journal (HKDJ).

Local clinicians and academics are reputable for keeping abreast of new advances which inevitably demand continuous exchange of scientific knowledge both locally and internationally. The reputable mission speech by Martin Luther King Jr. "I have a Dream" inspires the Executive Editorial Board to envisage a long term goal or "the Dream" of the Journal to become a platform of scientific communication in both China and South East Asia. Hopefully, the HKDJ will strive to achieve being listed in the Index to Dental Literature, MEDLINE, PubMed and other indexing and abstracting bodies. Internet connects us into an information highway that most new scientific findings can spread around the world in fractions of second. Hitherto, we have already paved the infrastructure for electronic version of this newborn Journal in the near future.

The Journal starts with a biannual publication including reviews, original researches and clinical articles, additionally we also introduce columns in dentistry such as Dentist and Community, e-Dentistry and China Focus which serve to keep the readers inform of other areas of interest adjunct to their professional life.

We owe much to the Council of the Hong Kong Dental Association that support the inauguration of the Journal throughout the preparation. Notwithstanding, we should acknowledge Professor FC Smales, Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Hong Kong, Professor U Hägg, President of the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong for their encouragement to support the venture of this scholarly dental material. Thanks to allied professions in the medical field such as the editors of a number of local medical journals have shared their ideas and experiences with us. We have very good fortune to have marvelous assistance from our friends over a worldwide network form a strong list of Honorary Editorial Advisors. They are indispensable in our peer-reviewed process.

Professor CE Renson has been a supporter of the Biennial Reports and is contributory to the launch of the Journal. Dr. Edward MF Leung shared his invaluable medical editing experience in the preparatory phase of the Journal. The generosity of Professor Renson, Professor Hägg & colleagues and Dr. David Kan to contribute the invited articles that is close to our hearts. We very much appreciate the support from the administrative and secretarial colleagues of the HKDA office such as Ms Carol Lee for her great efforts.

The growth of the Journal relies much on the quality submissions from the readers. Do contribute your original research and clinical experience to the Hong Kong Dental Journal! Your support and continuous feedback are the most valuable asset for our future development.

Dr. Tak-Kun Chow
Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Kevin Hak-Kong Yip
Deputy Editor