

## *Foreword*

With the current issue, our journal crosses the threshold of its life into the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of continuous publication.

The same as a child's quantitative growth along the first years of life, our journal has likewise advanced enthusiastically. Our „child“ has become the focal point of new acquaintances - editors, paper authors - and its interests for the community has been enhanced and already reached the spot where it wishes to self-define more specifically.

The journal's progress dovetailed with the proceedings of the three congresses held meantime: the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Congress „Oral Health and Dental Management in the Black Sea Countries“, the Dental Symposium „From East towards West“ and the 7<sup>th</sup> National Congress of Oro-maxillo-facial Surgery.

The interest sparked for the 2004 issue testifies that the problems within the field of Dental Medicine are expanding even though they are still well behind such levels as attained in the Western world.

Under the current conditions, the Faculty of Dental Medicine has no intention of monopolizing the scientific events and a decision has been taken for staging the next Constantza gathering in 2006, thus allowing another Black Sea Country-member to take over the tasks of organizing the 2005 Congress.

Consequently, we would welcome a speedy offer made by another Faculty, well in advance, so as to secure a comfortable spell of time devoted to proper organization. I will get personally in touch

with other Deans of Black Sea Faculties, in order to acquire support in successfully carrying on the cycle of Oral Health Congresses.

As the efforts of various kinds made by the staff ensuring the rhythmical publication of our journal meets financial problems (as for myself, I have exhausted all personal resources!) we ask for your kind understanding that we are pushed to instituting subscriptions for the Journal in 2004, in the sum of 20 USD for 4 issues, shipment taxes included. All first authors whose papers are published in the Journal will be sent the respective issues, free of charge.

A new section, „Varia“ has been introduced into the structure of the Journal, to hold the numerous incoming papers off the fields of Oral Public Health or Management applied to Dentistry. However, we wish to limit the volume of this new section to roughly 25% of the total amount of papers per issue.

The optimal solution to supporting the Journal would certainly be sponsorships; therefore we welcome any theoretical but mostly practical suggestion in this respect.

We wish you happy arrival to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congress „Oral Health and Dental Management in the Black Sea Countries“ and full success in the proceedings!

We equally assure you that the organizing staff has set up a program, whose hospitable character and originality may not be easily forgotten by our welcome guests.

Professor Corneliu Amariei, PhD  
Founding Editor