

The holistic approach – the only way to go

EDITORIAL

The development in the field of dental traumatology has over many years been driven by various specialists engaged in traumatology. Their interest has often been started by meeting individual trauma victims and the very special and complex challenge and reward to treat such patients. In the specialties, advanced treatment methods have been developed in research and clinic for the benefit of our patients, and we can today do wonders when it comes to saving teeth, aesthetically restore traumatized teeth and replace traumatized teeth lost by trauma, and many specialties claim that dental traumatology belongs to their specialty in curriculum and specialty descriptions.

While this functions very well during day time and during office hours, when it comes to implementation in evenings and weekends the situation is less optimistic. We know that a large portion of dental trauma occurs in evenings and weekends. However, the interest of taking care of dental trauma outside office hours is weak in some specialties. And we sometimes hear spe-

cialists claiming that trauma do not belong to their specialty, at least not outside office hours. In other specialties, that are available on call outside office hours, there is lack of resources and interest of taking care of dental trauma cases.

In summary, the history of dental traumatology has taught me that one specialty is not able to take the full responsibility for treatment of dental trauma cases. The holistic, multi-disciplinary approach in cooperation and a good local organization of resources is the only way to go.

In some societies, this has been organized very well also outside office hours, in other places, it is not functioning at all and the dental trauma patients' fall between the chairs. How is it organized in your city?

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