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## Editorial

It is with great pride and a strong sense of responsibility that I assume the post as Editor in Chief of *International Journal of Paediatric Dentistry*. The journal is now in its 15th volume and is established as an important forum for all working in the field of paediatric dentistry worldwide. I am greatly indebted to Ruth Holt for her successful efforts to improve the quality of papers published and to maintain a high scientific standard and also for all the help I have had during the first period of office.

The journal is jointly owned by the International Association of Paediatric Dentistry, the British Society of Paediatric Dentistry and by Blackwell Publishing. I have the great pleasure to work with two associate editors, Göran Koch and Helen Rodd, appointed by the two societies. Together we form a good team with worldwide contacts that is of benefit to the journal. The cooperation with the publisher has been very positive; there is a strong and competent team at Blackwell Publishing in Oxford, Copenhagen and Edinburgh with much experience of publishing within the field of dentistry. They are all dedicated to improving the scientific impact of *IJPD*.

There are three main areas that I want to work on during my term of office: firstly, to increase the scientific impact of *International Journal of Paediatric Dentistry* and to make it the first choice for publication of scientific papers related to the field of paediatric dentistry. This is of course a long-term process. The first step has been taken and from September 2005 the whole publication process will be web based. The experience of the publishers is that this will increase the number of submissions to the journal, speed up the publication process from submission, reviewing to publication. You can find more information regarding this new submission process in this issue. A new editorial board has been appointed, all with a strong research background representing a diverse worldwide community of researchers/clinicians in our field.

Secondly, I will aim to develop added values to the printed copy of *IJPD*. The number of scientific journals published electronically is increasing very rapidly, as is the use of the electronic versions. In 2004 there were more than 57,000 downloads of articles from *IJPD*. We do have the possibility to link the references in *IJPD* to all references in PubMed and also use CrossRef, where papers on similar subjects can be identified and brought to the reader's attention. I also aim to explore the possibility of publishing additional material to the scientific papers and case reports such as additional clinical pictures, short power-point presentations or even video clips. This material may then be of value to all readers involved in teaching in dental schools or continuous professional education.

Thirdly, I would like to develop a new format for review articles in *IJPD*. All journal editors are keen on review articles, because they are often cited and contribute to the journal's ranking. Since paediatric dentistry is an interdisciplinary subject to a large extent governed by values which may differ in different parts of the world, to attract teams of experts in, for example, behaviour management, pulp therapy or prevention and ask them to write a structured review with special attention to the scientific evidence available would be extremely useful for readers of *IJPD*. All centres of postgraduate education could be involved in such an endeavour.

I extend an invitation to readers of *IJPD* to communicate with the editorial team. I would welcome comments and suggestions for improvement. I hope that at the beginning of 2006 you will see the results of our efforts to improve the journal.

Göran Dahllöf  
Editor in Chief

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