



The past and the future

The fourth year of *EJOI* has ended and it is time now to reflect. All the original planned goals have been achieved: *EJOI* is indexed in MEDLINE, started with a decent impact factor, has been adopted as the official journal by several prestigious European scientific societies, has published its first supplement and is the only dental journal that has randomised clinical trials as the most common type of published article. The flow of submitted manuscripts has increased and we managed to publish manuscripts, written according to the journal instructions, within 3 months of submission. So, looking back, all has gone well.

Now we can finally rest a little, recharge the batteries. However when relaxing, thoughts move toward the future. The question that often emerges at the end of each year, after reflection, is what does the future hold? It will definitely be more competitive for everybody and everywhere. For the European clinicians in particular, there will be more regulations, higher costs, higher taxes, more competitions and more careful patients (and I do understand them too) about accepting more expensive and complex treatment procedures.

We can complain or we can act. Let's do both. Let's ask for fewer rules and fewer unnecessary bureaucratic commitments, less compulsory forced continuing education which absorbs already too much of our time and frustrates our legitimate initiatives and our will to do more good things, but at the same time let's act. When acting, one of the solutions could be a simplification of the clinical procedures, thereby cutting costs and time without compromising the quality of care. Of course our work organisation, marketing strategies and interactions with our patients also need to be refined.

What role could *EJOI* play in this? The mission of *EJOI* is to try to help you and your patients in choosing the most effective and safe therapies by

providing reliable clinical articles to guide you in making the best clinical decisions. To achieve this, I had to adopt a rigid manuscript acceptance policy filtering those manuscripts that are intended to provide real clinical answers from those submitted just to show how good the authors are, how good a product for sale is, to facilitate an academic promotion, or done with good intentions but in a non-scientific way. *EJOI* is a **clinical scientific** journal that has an **educational mission** and we want to publish reliable evidence, positive or negative. Therefore it is extremely important that manuscripts are submitted following the journal instructions and the international guidelines (CONSORT, STROBE, PRISMA, etc.) for writing transparent scientific reports. *EJOI* can also help some of those young authors who wish to refine their scientific knowledge by providing some advice to make their papers more reliable and less susceptible to criticism. We shall remain open to accepting manuscripts on those therapies that are not very fashionable today or manuscripts not limited to implant dentistry but also on alternative therapeutic options.

Now the first phase of *EJOI* is successfully concluded and we need to plan for the future. *EJOI* is a young and lively journal full of enthusiasm and good intentions. We wish to publish a few high quality and valid clinical articles each issue, showing in detail the clinical procedures and possible complications and keeping the publication time as short as possible. We wish also to see our editorial policy reflected in a rapid increase of *EJOI*'s impact factor. So if you wish to read or to publish reliable clinical articles in dentistry, *EJOI* is your best choice!

Have a nice Christmas and a fantastic New Year
Marco Esposito
Editor-in-Chief