



Not for Publication

## Talk to your patients



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*Editor-in-Chief*

Digital technologies are invading our office and help us to be more efficient when completing our daily routine. This development is also reflected in the manuscripts submitted to *the European Journal of Esthetic Dentistry* describing the use of various digital technologies from digital photography, shade taking, intraoral scanning, CAD/CAM design, to mention just a few.

So far, computers are not able to measure our patients desire and wishes, and therefore the “face-to-face communication” with our patients and the members involved in a dental treatment remains an important part of what we do.

Before we start looking at a patient's teeth, we have to find out about the expectations your patients have. What do they really want? Often it is better to send a patient back home and let her/him think about all the information given to her/him and find out what she/he really wants.

Digital technologies can help us to make this communication easier and more reliable. You and your patient will not always remember all the details of a discussion you had in the office, so not only do you need to write down comments in your patient history, but additional visual information also helps to have a better and understandable communication – especially when dealing with esthetic corrections to be made in a patient's mouth.

In this issue, our first article describes an interesting way of combining digital technologies with an intense “face-to-face communication” with the patient, called PEP (Patient-supported esthetic protocol). This protocol is supported by an iPad App to store and share the steps of the treatment with sketches, images and videos, and is worth reading carefully.

Enjoy reading!

Sincerely,  
*Alessandro Devigus*