



## Editorial

Since the publishing policy changed in 2007, the Chinese Journal of Dental Research has completed four issues with original articles in the last two years. A supplemental issue was also published in 2007 for the manuscripts accumulated before the change of publishing policy. In the last two years, 45 original manuscripts have been published, among which 33 were from mainland China and 12 were from overseas, with authors from the USA, Belgium, Australia, Finland, India, Iran, The Netherlands, Croatia, Malaysia and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, and co-authors from the United Kingdom, Germany, Greece, Norway and Italy, among others. We thank all the authors, at home or abroad, for their contributions. We are also grateful to the peer reviewers of the journal.

In this issue, we present two reviews, followed by six clinical or basic research articles and three case reports. The first review, by Professor Xu Chen MA, introduces the current status and problems of clinical and research work on temporomandibular disorders in China, and the other is a literature review of molecular mechanisms underlying congenitally missing teeth, by Professor Zhuan BIAN. Notably, a special report is included in this issue to present 'Guidelines for dental services at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games', by Dr Xiao Jiang YANG, the chief dentist of the 29th Olympic Games. This is the first opportunity to report the objectives of the dental services for the Olympic Games. The principles and details in the guidelines proved practical and applicable during the Olympic Games, and it is a way for the journal to celebrate the great success of the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.

The Editor-in-Chief, Associate Editors and the Editorial Board were reorganised with the change of publishing policy in 2007. Eight professors in the USA and one professor in Hong Kong were invited to join the Editorial Board. The organisation and the editorial work of the journal were strengthened, and the quality of submitted manuscripts improved markedly. The manuscripts

from abroad presented excellent research work of the authors, and more than 30 manuscripts from domestic authors were involved in many branches of stomatology, which reflects the current status and research level of Chinese stomatology both clinically and in research. I hope that the journal will attract the attention of international colleagues who are interested in Chinese stomatology, and that the journal will be an important window for the world to understand Chinese stomatological research.

It is well known that Chinese stomatology was almost destroyed by the Cultural Revolution and was rebuilt by Chinese stomatologists after the Reform and Open policy. In the last 30 years, the number of schools or faculties of stomatology in China has increased from five to nearly 100, and the number of research institutes and laboratories has also increased rapidly. The number of stomatological students graduating every year has increased from about 200 to nearly 2,000. Currently, around 200 postgraduate students are awarded the PhD degree each year, compared with only a few 20 years ago. Hundreds of outstanding young Chinese scholars of stomatology have received advanced training in developed countries. The stomatology schools and faculties in China have good academic communication and research co-operation with dozens of countries.

Stomatology in China is developing rapidly and integrating into the international dental world. Establishment of the journal will accelerate the development of Chinese stomatology, introducing Chinese stomatology to the dental world, and ensuring that China is a world-class player in the world of dentistry.

Those who have given or give their support and help to the journal will be appreciated and remembered.

Zhen Kang ZHANG  
Chief-Editor Emeritus