

EDITORIAL

Message from IAOMP president



“Be the change you want to see.....”

First, let me wish you all a Happy and Successful 2016.

The buzzword of the New Year, in almost all professional and social arenas, has been –“Inclusiveness”. This is true for our specialty too, which from the nomenclature “Oral Pathology”, has become inclusive to now become – Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, Microbiology and Forensic Odontology. Paradoxically, as we have grown to include more responsibilities in the name there seems to be a rising concern of the growth of the specialty. The question is what do we do about it? The best answer to this is to work towards inclusiveness at the level of the individual and association.

At the individual level this translates to reaching out to the general dental practitioner and the other dental specialists, and making them aware of our role and extending our services to enable them to better manage patients on a day-to day basis. This integration into routine dental practice is the need of the hour and mitigates to some extent the dependency on academic appointments as the sole avenue of occupation after graduation. This would necessitate us to constantly upgrade ourselves on relevant emerging techniques and concepts rather than restricting ourselves to review of slides and didactic continuing education programs.

At the level of the association, we are working on three fronts: i) Addressing the issue of increased quantum of our participation as faculty, ii) Increasing our interaction with allied specialties including general pathology and microbiology and iii) Exploring avenues for increased research activities at the national and international level. IAOMP needs critical inputs and active participation from every member to help us achieve our goals.

In light of the current scenario, the upcoming silver jubilee conference of our association along with the 18th IAOMP conference in Chennai from September 8, 2016 to September 11, 2016 has been structured to incorporate this inclusiveness, and has active participation from not only Oral and Maxillofacial Pathologists but also stalwarts from Oral Medicine, Surgery, General Pathology, Forensics, Dermatology and research funding organizations. To ensure maximum participation IAOMP has done away with the PG convention for 2016.

The current scenario for our specialty seems tough but I am sure, working together we will turn barriers to stepping-stones and take our specialty to higher levels of importance and success.

K Ranganathan

*President, IAOMP, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology,
Ragas Dental College, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India.
E-mail: ranjay22@gmail.com*

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Access this article online	
Quick Response Code: 	Website: www.jomfp.in
	DOI: 10.4103/0973-029X.180895

How to cite this article: Ranganathan K. Message from IAOMP president. J Oral Maxillofac Pathol 2016;20:1.