

Editorial

Do we need luxurious facilities for exchange of knowledge?

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National Conference is a time when all the people of our fraternity come under one roof for a cause. These conferences provide a platform for development of new ideas, exchange of thoughts, knowledge sharing and provides an excellent opportunity for the postgraduate students to interact with the stalwarts of their field of interest.

Recently, there is a steep rise in the registration fees for these conferences. The organizing committee substantiates this exorbitant fee to various expenses encountered in organizing this mega event. The major expenses being payments to event organizers, three star to seven star accommodations, five star conference halls, seven-course dinners, grand banquet night, and the like.

A question needs to be answered at this juncture. Do we really need this luxurious ambience and sumptuous menus to exchange the scientific knowledge? We could clearly see that very little is spent for the scientific program *per se*. Most of the funds generated by the organizing committee goes into the hands of a third party that form the non-scientific part of the conference.

Postgraduate students and dental faculty from private dental institutions may be able to afford this exorbitant fee because of better economic status and perks from the management. But we should also take into consideration the students and faculty from Government dental colleges who may not be able to afford the same.

According to the regulations of Dental Council of India, every dental college in India should possess a well equipped, spacious auditorium. It would be wise if the conference is organised in such auditoriums. This would help in reducing the cost incurred by the organising committee. Additionally, this also gives an opportunity for the delegates to know about the various facilities available in the college and an opportunity for the management of the college to display its facilities to the delegates. The delegates apart from participating in the scientific activities of the conference can also use facilities of the library of the college. Organising within the college premises would also bring about interaction of faculty members from other specialities.

Research in today's world is becoming a necessity and we need to encourage postgraduate students to pursue quality research work. Though there is plenty of clinical material available in India, hardly a handful of quality research comes out of it. Major reasons being financial and infrastructure constraints. As a responsible member of our association and as a guide to our fellow students, if we could come out of this false world of luxurious facilities, we could be able divert the huge amount of funds generated toward the purpose of research in the form of research grants, setting up of central/regional research laboratories, development of an unified registry of various oral pathologies for the Indian subcontinent, and the like.

The editorial team of JOMFP thanks all the authors, peer reviewers, readers, subscribers, and publishers, who helped us in improving the quality of the journal. We hope we have done our best toward raising the standards of the journal and wish all the best to the new editorial team headed by Dr. Elizabeth Joshua.

Kindly make a note of the contact details of the new editorial office.



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