

fighting fad with **SCIENCE**



# *Are we forgetting that Dentistry is a health science?*

**W**riting is a way of thinking... I have always felt like that. However, today I'm doubtful: what am I going to write about? And then I realized that having doubts is healthy because it brings new ideas and a lot of learning.

Being a daughter of a university professor who in 1967 left her little children in Brazil to take a post-graduation course in a foreign country, something which was very hard for women at that time, I grew up admiring teachers.

Nowadays as the current President of GBPD — Grupo Brasileiro de Professores de Dentística that is Brazilian Operative Dentistry Professors Group, I have been concerned about these hard and uncertain days.

Today we can see our colleagues posting on the Internet clinical cases before and after the procedures and ignoring the fact that this behavior is forbidden. There is no doubt that every law could be discussed and changed but never violated.

We have seen students following opinion makers with a collection of “likes” in the social media and ignoring other well-qualified professors with a lot of scientific papers published. A great number of miraculous esthetic solutions have been presented without scientific proof.

Regarding dental lenses, for instance, there are a lot of doubts concerning them. The nomenclature, which was launched in 1995 for the first time, used to refer to the effect of contact lens made from very thin porcelain veneer. Concerning the correct prescription, it's necessary to know the etiology in order to prescribe the appropriate ceramic laminate. In addition to that, unprepared contact lenses, which may lead to over contours and unsuited emergency profile. It's difficult to forget our colleagues who defend making courses for Prosthesis and Esthetics specialists. Isn't it in the Operative Dentistry field?

The GBPD, which was founded over 40 years ago, has been trying to promote a respectable dentistry education and an integration with other specialties, prioritizing evidence-based dentistry.

The Group has promoted biannual Congresses where fundamental aspects of operative dentistry teaching are discussed. At those events there are always professor and opinion leaders from Brazil and from other countries. The aim of the GBPD directors is to be a tool for the improvement of Operative Dentistry. That's the reason why we envisage our partnership with the Journal of Clinical Dentistry and Research (JCDR) as a path to promote excellent dentistry.

I consider the future of our country and the life quality of our population extremely important. We are privileged to have in our hands the possibility of doing something to try to minimize the social injustices, by providing attention and health to our patients in an ethical way. I believe that success is not only financial, but also professional achievement, pleasure and love for the things we do.

Peace and Good!

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.14436/2447-911x.15.3.150-152.cmc>