

# A Dental Professional's Personal Experience as an Author: Innovational and Educational Approach

Dear Editor,

This paper highlights the biographical sketch of a dental professional from India as an author to innovate and educate upcoming dental professionals in India. Scientific publications are considered as a colloquium to communicate with the readers of the globe to gain recognition as experts in a particular field at national and international levels. The authors should acquire essential qualities such as love of writing, love of words, imagination, motivation, and professionalism for good scientific publication.

The primary objective of the study is to self-audit the role as a potential author to promote dental publishing using educational and innovational approach. Bibliometric analysis of the research made by the author was retrieved from the site *ResearchGate*.<sup>[1]</sup> Only articles published by the author were included, while chapters, preprints, and presentations were excluded in the study. Research was divided into innovational and educational topics. The study period was from July 30, 2008, to July 30, 2019, where the author worked as *Dental Assistant Surgeon* in following institutions, respectively, *Taluk Head Quarters Hospital, Nilambur, India*, and *Taluk Head Quarters Hospital, Malappuram, India*.

## ROLE AS INNOVATOR IN DENTAL PUBLISHING [TABLE 1]<sup>[1]</sup>

The author is a 42-year-old male government dental professional from India. This is his 10 years' experience as an author to innovate and educate upcoming dental professionals in India. His life was influenced by ethical principles and religious background of Islam nurtured by parents. His writing skills was improvised and encouraged by the mentors and teachers when he was doing Masters in Dental Surgery (Oral Pathology and Microbiology) from 2005 to 2008 at a Government Dental School in India. During that

period, he published his first book (*Review of Oral Pathology with Explanatory Answers*), a multiple-choice questions book for undergraduate students for the subject oral pathology.<sup>[2]</sup>

As an innovator, the author had worked on topics such as forensic odontology, iatrogenic lesions of teeth and associated structures in the oral cavity, orofacial pain, psychosomatic disorders pertaining to dentistry, spindle cell neoplasms of the oral cavity, oral manifestations of endocrine disorders, and dental indices. He had done library dissertation on forensic odontology during his postgraduate period, and there was no working classification for forensic odontology based on relationship with dental specialties. He had proposed working classification for forensic odontology in 2011, and its detailed review about above classification in 2012 and study to support the classification was ascertained.

The psychosomatic disorders of the oral cavity were the essay topic during his postgraduate period, and there was no literature on the working classification about psychosomatic disorders of the oral cavity in PubMed. He had made an attempt to propose working classification for psychosomatic disorders in 2012 and revised the classification based on the personal communications received in 2014. Later, he re-revised above classification in 2017 based on a new psychosomatic entity occurred in his life.

## ROLE AS EDUCATOR IN DENTAL PUBLISHING [TABLE 2]<sup>[1]</sup>

As an educator, the author had made articles on publication ethics, oral health, oral pathology, workplace, and current issues pertaining to India. He had lucky to pictorially illustrate clinical photographs of moon molars in congenital syphilis in a pathology journal where the existing literature supports only evidence from museum specimens. He had encountered an occupational hazard in the

**Table 1: Innovational articles**

Serial number	Topic	Subtopics
A	Forensic odontology	Working classification for forensic odontology based on dental specialties, lead foil in the intraoral periapical radiograph as an inclusion agent in denture identification, simplified Indian coding for forensic dental identification
B	Iatrogenic lesions of teeth and associated structures in the oral cavity	Working classification for iatrogenic lesions of teeth and associated structures in the oral cavity
C	Orofacial pain	Simple working-type classification for orofacial pain
D	Psychosomatic disorders pertaining to dentistry	Working classification for psychosomatic disorders
E	Spindle cell neoplasms of the oral cavity	Working classification for spindle cell neoplasms
F	Oral manifestations of endocrine disorders	Working classification for oral manifestations of endocrine disorders
G	Dental indices	Working classification for dental indices based on dental specialties

**Table 2: Educational articles**

Serial number	Topic	Subtopics
A	Publication ethics	Qualities of author, retraction of the article, plagiarism, predatory journals
B	Oral health	Tobacco awareness, school dental health program
C	Oral pathology	Awareness among medical professionals, clinical illustration of dental trait (moon molars in congenital syphilis)
D	Work place	Occupational hazard, ergonomics, job crafting behavior, critical thinking skills, sound mental health
E	Current issues	Oral health policy, generic drug prescription, ethics committee in research, problem-based learning, dental education, continuing dental education points

workplace, and it was published to motivate dental professionals to stick on Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines.

Even though he had behind unethical principles of publication such as plagiarism and predatory journals, he was once caught for *plagiarizing article about plagiarism* and he admitted his mistake and the article was retracted.<sup>[3]</sup>

Every year, he refines his writing skills by attending workshops on publishing organized by specific associations. Even though the author is working as a dental professional in a Hospital, he is finding time to educate and innovate the upcoming dental professionals to safeguard the ethical principles in publishing. Courage and honesty of the author may take center stage to halt unethical practices of publishing.

### Declaration of patient consent

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms. In the form the patient(s) has/have given his/her/their consent for his/her/their images and other clinical information to be reported in the journal. The patients understand that their names and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal their identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

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### Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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