Dear Reader,

Dentistry willingly embraces new technologies, digital imaging, 3-D treatment planning, CAD/CAM, 3-D printing, innovative materials, we can find them all in dental offices.

In the wild and wonderful world of technology, there is always a new trending topic. Right now, it seems that 4-D printing has become the hot new issue. Dr Sherif Kandil, experienced orthodontist, CEO of K Line Europe, believes that in close future the 4-D technology will change medicine in general and orthodontics in particular. In this issue of ortho magazine, we publish an interview in which Dr Kandil explains what this new technology is and how it can be used. ‘In orthodontics, we will be able to provide patients a much more precise treatment that exactly meets their needs through customising the clear aligners or the orthodontic wire to change its shape when placed in the oral cavity to the requested final result. So it is crafting the final result with much more precision and with a smaller amount of clear aligners or wires so that only 1–2 aligners or 1–2 orthodontic wires are needed for the whole treatment’, he says. Kandil envisions the 4-D technology entering the market in 2019 and change many applied current treatment concepts in orthodontics.

Aligner therapy is one of the fastest growing areas in orthodontics, this relatively new treatment method gained its popularity as an alternative to fixed appliances for tooth straightening. We can expect that the aligner market will advance and this development will be based on science, experience and new technology like 4-D printing.

However, aligner therapy has its limits, e.g. skeletal discrepancies that are normally treated with a combination of surgery and orthodontics. Yet, many patients refuse the option of maxillofacial surgery for many reasons and remain as they are. With the Carriere Motion Appliance—a new approach, developed by Dr Luis Carrière—orthodontists can provide a minimally invasive treatment even to more complicated cases. Inside this ortho magazine you will find a very well documented case report describing this new approach.

I hope you will find this year’s first issue informative and enjoy all new techniques we would like to make you familiar with.

Yours faithfully,

Magda Wojtkiewicz
Managing Editor