Standing ovation

It’s been one big emotional roller coaster for Dr Eddie Crouch lately. Here he speaks exclusively on why he continued to fight the good fight.

Two sides

The two clinical endodontic questions continue to cause much controversy in the profession. Dr Richard Mounce explains why.

Veneer pitfalls

There are more patients than ever before presenting with acute sensitivity and pain after veneer treatments says Dr Sultan.

Three cheers for Dr Crouch

A n orthodontist has won a landmark victory, after taking on the Department of Health and fighting against an appeal, which would have given health bosses the right to terminate dental contracts without cause or notice.

The DH lodged the appeal earlier this year after Eddie Crouch, an orthodontist in Birmingham, won a Judicial Review, which said that primary care trusts (PCTs) were wrong to insist a clause in the NHS dental contracts allowing them to terminate the contract without cause or notice.

The DH battled it out in the High Court, saying that health bosses needed such a power.

The Court of Appeal upheld the earlier ruling that the reasons by which a PCT can end a contract are set out in legislation and that a PCT must abide by legitimate termination reasons.

If the DH had won the appeal, primary care trusts would have had the power to end dentists’ contracts with as little as one day’s notice.

Dr Crouch said that it was ‘assuring’ that ‘fairness was seen to be upheld’ and said it ‘should encourage others to challenge inappropriate powers that PCTs and the Department try to influence’.

Dr Crouch was forced to rely on financial support from fellow dentists to fight the case after he failed to come to an agreement with the British Dental Association (BDA) over a confidentiality document they wanted him to sign.

Mouthwash link with cancer

M outhwashes containing alcohol can cause oral cancer and should be removed from supermarket shelves, a dental health study claims.

The news, which was revealed as Dental Tribune was going to press reports sufficient scientific evidence that such mouthwashes contribute to an increased risk of the disease.

The ethanol in mouthwash is a toxic breakdown product of alcohol called acetaldehyde that may accumulate in the oral cavity.
Mouthwash link with cancer

Dr Sue Gregory is awarded an OBE

S hiv Pahary, a general dental practitioner in Newcastle and Gateshead was awarded an OBE for services to the NHS.

More Honours for the profession

Ms Harris is to be the new president of the British Society of Dental Hygiene and Therapy.

New president for the BSDHT

M arina Harris is to be the new president of the British Society of Dental Hygiene and Therapy, for the last two years in her capacity as president-elect, to ensure a smooth and successful handover.

She currently works as a dental hygiene tutor at the University of Portsmouth’s School of Professionals-Complementary to Dentistry.

She has been working closely with Mike Wheeler, the former executive of the British Dental Health Foundation, for the last two years in her capacity as president-elect, to ensure a smooth and successful handover.

Dr Gregory, a former dental public health consultant for NHS Fife, is a fellow of the Faculty of Public Health, Royal College of Physicians and a member of the Faculty of Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Dr Gregory said: ‘I am tremendously excited by this award. It is always a great privilege to be recognised for the work that you do and this is a really fitting ending to a wonderful few months.’

Dr Gregory is the former president of the British Dental Health Foundation, which has worked to promote dental health in the UK.

The new president-elect is Sally Simpson.

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