As a professor and international speaker, every year I meet hundreds of young people full of enthusiasm, pursuing their goal to conquer the endodontic world. This is beautiful, but even more beautiful is when I meet my former students, after ten or 15 years, and they still have the same passion as before. Unfortunately, it rarely happens. Why is that? What happened to their enthusiasm all these years later? Why do recent developments and trends in endodontics no longer appear to fascinate them?

On the one hand, industry is overwhelming dentists with innovative materials and technologies, which have developed rapidly in recent years. On the other hand, there is a lack of information and evidence-based literature on when and how to use them correctly. It is confusing; thus, many dentists prefer to follow traditional procedures instead of pursuing new solutions and knowledge. This leads to a routine which is very well known to kill any previous passion that could have existed.

I therefore consider to be of paramount importance to undertake continuing professional development by attending congresses, following courses and reading literature. It is only in this way that you will remain up to date and as enthusiastic as before, I hope.

One year from now, in September 2013, a beautiful Lisbon will host the largest endodontics meeting in Europe: the 16th Biennial Congress of the European Society of Endodontology, organised in collaboration with the Portuguese Society of Endodontology. I encourage you to put this event in your schedule today already, as there will be a lot to learn at the congress.

Continuing professional education together with the exchange of experiences will keep us moving forward with passion that both, us and our patients really need.

Yours faithfully,

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