



New Clinical Section

"All is flux, nothing is stationary. There is nothing permanent except change."
Heraclitus, Greek philosopher,
c.540-c. 470 B.C.

In this second issue of volume 21 of *Pediatric Dentistry* the reader will find something new. At the direction of past and present officers and trustees our Journal initiates the "Clinical Section." The Clinical Section represents an enlargement of the scope of *Pediatric Dentistry*. It will not detract from the primary mission of the Journal established more than two decades ago. The Journal will continue to bring our audience cutting edge science, opinion, and examination of contemporary pediatric dentistry investigations, issues, and trends. These themes are the taproot of our Journal and I believe always should be.

Purpose of the Clinical Section

The Clinical Section presents articles designed to appeal to the clinical abilities, understandings, needs and/or intuitions of the significant plurality of our readership, those who address clinical issues as the major expression of their professional endeavors. There is an art to the practice of pediatric dentistry ranging from the manipulation of dental materials to the conduct of a successful private practice, from the use of new technology to innovative infant oral health preventive strategies, etc., etc., etc. For the reader and the contributor, the Clinical Section represents what Mini Clinics and String of Pearls have contributed so successfully to our annual meetings in recent years. Hopefully, the Clinical Section will open a door for contributions from our readers to share those artistic curiosities, clinical breakthroughs, and other illuminations that one clinician can share with another clinician who practices and/or appreciates clinical pediatric dentistry. It should

be a great read and a desirable forum for contributions by our membership.

Please Contribute

Everyone associated with the Clinical Section is hoping that, after we start, new articles will be generated perhaps by members who never thought they could publish in our Journal. Realize that we are looking for the kinds of things that pediatric dentists talk about when together and "chewing the fat": clinical issues, dilemmas, and solutions that we have heard about or have realized.

We are not looking for long reference lists... in fact, some of the articles will not even have references. We are not looking for long comprehensive articles describing every modification of a particular archwire or every adaptation of an anesthesia technique or the types of conscious sedation available today.

We are not looking for bar graphs; data; statistics; or even the scope of opinions on an issue. We are looking for those submissions that are fun and enthusiastic for the clinician to share. We are looking for photography (even colored pictures!) that portray visually what you wish to share with the rest of the pediatric dentistry clinical community. We are looking for specifics: good photography, clinical relevance, and innovative approaches to accomplishing good contemporary clinical pediatric dentistry.

Don't Be Afraid To Contribute

"Don't sweat the small stuff". Your contribution for this section of the Journal is going to be based upon the novelty, appropriateness, and contribution of your ideas, realizations, and attainments. If your reluctance to contribute stems from a lack of time or resources to groom a perfect manuscript, please recognize that the Headquarters Office, myself, and the Clinical Section's Editorial Board will work with and for you to bring

forth a readable and quality manuscript. I promise.

Therefore, this is truly an invitation for all of you to please become a contributor.

The Clinical Section Board

The Clinical Board for 1998-1999 is composed of the following members: Elizabeth Barr, William Berlocher, Daniel Cook, Theodore Croll, Kevin Donly, Constance Killian, Arthur Nowak, and William Waggoner.

Any of these individuals would be more than glad to review an idea with you regarding a contribution, screen your manuscript, evaluate your photography when appropriate or help you to develop an idea. Please call upon them if you need their help. Helping would be their privilege.

Call for Feedback

Obviously, this first edition will neither verify nor disparage the conclusion that our Journal should have a Clinical Section. Those thoughts, conclusions, and advice loom to be an activity for the future. However, I do consider life and all the institutions of life to be in flux. There is no reason that the Officers, the Editor-in-Chief, myself, and the Clinical Board of the Journal cannot start receiving feedback from the get-go. Please share your advice and conclusions as they occur to you and they will be incorporated into the flux that continually will redesign *Pediatric Dentistry* to be what it is today—the premiere publication for the science and art of contemporary pediatric dentistry.

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