

## Duties of an editor-in-chief



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When I first took up the position of Implantology editor-in-chief, I was certain that a lot of work would be necessary to maintain the excellence of the journal. The challenges I was about to face included reaching a higher step in national scientific qualification and divulging the journal internationally. Nevertheless, when a large amount of work is ahead of us, we need organization, dedication and goals.

What is needed and what is expected from a scientific publication editor-in-chief? In my case, such scientific publication stands for a journal dedicated to Implantodontics of which target readers are researchers, professors and clinicians working with a fascinating dental specialty.

In the AJO-DO Editorial published in September, 2013, Dr. David Turpin – who had been named interim editor after the premature loss of Dr. Vincent Kokich, one of the most renowned orthodontists worldwide – wrote about the search for a new editor-in-chief.<sup>1</sup> At that time, he mentioned a publication of the Journal of American College of Dentists (2005) which discussed the duties and responsibilities of an editor.<sup>2</sup> That is what inspired me to write the editorial herein.

*The first responsibility of an editor-in-chief is with the readers. He must work to ensure that content comes from reliable sources with precise, balanced and unbiased facts. Personal opinion must be stated as such, providing information of potential conflict of interest. The text must be clear and written in standardized style with thorough grammar review. Whenever possible, one must be given the opportunity to have third-party opinion.*

*The second responsibility is with the authors who represent the overall scientific community. The editor must promote excellence of the specialty by publishing on a regular basis content selection criteria as well as guidelines for submission of manuscripts. Additionally, the material must be confidentially and critically revised by experts within a reasonable amount of time. Standards should be provided to the review board that should also have access to the guidelines they have to meet for all peer-reviewed manuscripts.*

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*The third responsibility is with the publisher which, in our case, is Dental Press International. The editor must diligently avoid placing the publisher in a position of legal challenge, and also ensure that commercial advertising is seemly and does not violate the parameters set by the publisher.*

*The fourth responsibility is with the community of editors. This means the editor must, on a regular basis, seek advice and be open to peer guidance. Furthermore, he must support the norms of republication as well as use of published material and be open to the new forms of communication such as videos and blogs.*

Dr. Turpin finishes his text by asserting that writing and editing are privileges of self-expression and ethical responsibility with readers.

Excellent scientific journalism may help to combine new findings with patients' needs, thereby influencing treatment and leading to better outcomes.

A specialty of which members are able to express themselves by publishing research and properly conducted clinical findings may benefit numerous people around the world, including clinicians and the overall population.

As editor-in-chief of Dental Press Implantology, it is my goal to meet these four responsibilities. To this end, I count with the help of a board of assistant editors, members of the editorial board and professors as well as researchers from all around the world who contribute with many notable manuscripts.

This is the only way we will be able to enhance the quality of our specialty, bringing benefits to clinicians and improving treatment provided to people who trust us their health.

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**References:**

1. Turpin DL. The search for a new editor-in-chief. *Am J Orthod Dentofac Orthop.* 2013;144(5):635.
  2. Chambers DW, Curtis EK, Fratzke JP, Mark HI, Rosen R, Seward MH. Code for dental editors. *J Am Coll Dent.* 2005;72:5-8.
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