Preface

Complications in Dentoalveolar Surgery

The responsibility of the oral and maxillofacial surgeon is to provide the best possible result for their patients. In today’s society, the barometer of success does not end at a successful surgery, but in the ultimate achievement of the clinician’s goals as well as those of the patient. The scope of our specialty is vast, ranging from dentoalveolar procedures and trauma management to cosmetic and reconstructive surgery. Yet, for most of us, the core of our practice remains dentoalveolar surgery. While we have developed the most advanced surgical methods and techniques, it is the management and treatment of complications that will continue to be the most challenging aspects of our practices.

This issue attempts to address some of the medical and surgical complications that may be encountered during the care and treatment of our patients. We asked our contributors to dedicate their efforts to producing a work that would inform and educate the reader about some of the common and less common perils related to dentoalveolar surgery. In our opinion, the authors have excelled in this pursuit. The articles in this issue review various problems and offer practical guidelines for successful management.

The complications related to surgical misadventures, nerve injury, hemostasis, local anesthesia, and grafting are reviewed, as well as the surgical and medical management of dentoalveolar infections, osteoradionecrosis, and bisphosphonate-related necrosis. The issue concludes with a discussion of the failure to diagnose issues as they relate to pathology and the medico-legal aspects associated with dentoalveolar complications.

We would like to thank our contributors, who have shared with us their vast knowledge and experience in this issue. It is through their collective wisdom that we may enhance our decision-making process and thus ensure the highest quality of care for our patients. The practice of oral and maxillofacial surgery will inevitably result in complications, but we hope this issue will serve as a valuable tool in their prevention or management. We wish to express our special thanks to Ms Julie Yamashita for her review of our manuscripts.

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