Preface

Controversies in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

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The most damaging phrase in the language is:
We’ve always done it this way.
—Grace Hopper

It is our great pleasure to present the most current issue of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinics of North America dedicated to “Controversies in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.”

Since the inception of our specialty, controversy has been both a fortunate and an unfortunate part of our daily professional life. The influence of controversy reaches our surgical decision making and shapes our training and scope of practice. Controversy has been defined as a prolonged state of public debate involving conflicting views or opinions. In medicine, time, research, and technology attempt to address and extinguish controversy. Inevitably, however, new controversies arise from the ashes in a seemingly never-ending chain. Controversies in oral and maxillofacial surgery are abundant as some old arguments and opinions have withstood the test of time. On the other hand, new controversies are created regularly from peer-review journals, scientific meetings, and individuals who challenge the status quo.

In this issue, we attempt to address the predominant controversies in oral and maxillofacial surgery pertaining to a variety of topics as presented by a young generation of enthusiastic surgeons who have gracefully accepted our challenge to present the greatest controversies they face in their clinical practice each day. Each of these surgeons was granted the freedom to explore what they thought were the most critical controversies they currently face. We are forever thankful for their time and efforts, and we hope that the readers enjoy their work as much as we have. We would like to extend our thanks to the Elsevier editorial team for their patience and support throughout this project. We would also like to thank our families for their unconditional love and support. Last, much gratitude and thanks are due to our past, present, and future residents, who are always pushing us forward. This issue of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinics of North America is for you.

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