An Asian Aspects of Periodontology and Implantology

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The Asian region is inhabited by approximately four billion people and is the most populous area on Earth. There are many differences between Eastern and Western human populations in terms of anatomy, gene frequency, bacterial species present in and on the body, dietary habits (such as hard food chewing), personal habits (such as abuse of antibiotics, betel nut chewing, smoking and neglect of oral hygiene) and health insurance systems. The comparison of research data between Caucasian to Asian populations deserves further evaluation.

The board of publication, Taiwan Academy of Periodontology presents a new book *An Asian Aspects of Periodontology and Implantology* at the international annual meeting this year. The goal of this book was to invite experts and teams from the periodontal communities in Taiwan to systemically review clinical research, to analyze special cases, and to pinpoint the best approaches to periodontal and implant therapy for Asian populations. This involved a comparison of the differences in culture and host system between Eastern and Western individuals. The contents of *An Asian Aspects of Periodontology and Implantology* include statistical and epidemiological research in the areas of periodontology, periodontitis and gene polymorphism, genetic analysis targeting the risk/susceptibility with respect to oral disease(s) that accompany various systemic conditions, studies on microbial factors that affect the pathogenesis of periodontal disease, comparisons of the mucosal thickness of the hard palate between Eastern and Western populations, a discussion of periodontal regenerative therapy including a literature review of oriental cases, research on injury to the periodontium due to occlusal trauma, investigation of hard tissue changes during implant therapy, a review of surgical anatomy in relation to implant therapy and, finally, an analysis of Eastern and Western studies of interdental cortical bone thickness in relation to temporary anchorage devices.

The purpose of the present editorial is to summarize the main findings of each chapter of the new book, to analyze their clinical significance and to propose further area of research that need to be investigated. The contents of *An Asian Aspects of Periodontology and Implantology* are only a first volume in a series and its contents are intended to stimulate novel periodontal and implant research targeting Asian populations. The second volume in the present series will include reviews of many other significant areas of periodontology and implantology in the Asian region, such as the morphology of teeth, roots, and interdental papillae, periodontal soft and hard tissue anatomy, the management of furcation invasion, periodontal and peri-implant plastic surgery, the interrelationship between the...
periodontal-orthodontic areas, the interrelationship between the periodontal-endodontic areas, rapid implant therapy, the risk factors and complications associated with periodontal and implant therapy and, finally, the interrelationship between periodontitis and systemic diseases such as diabetes. The editor wishes to initiate a new stream of periodontal research in the Asian region, to discover the best periodontal and implant treatment modalities for all humankind, and to enhance everyone’s periodontal and oral health during their lifetime. (J Taiwan Periodontol, 18(3):169-176)

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