

Editorial

Dear Colleagues,

Dentistry over the years has gained recognition in the practice of medicine as a very important constituent of the individual health of a patient. But, what we have seen, in the recent past, all over the country, is that there is a lot of false, scientifically untenable and bombastic claims made by some dental practitioners and so-called 'corporate dental chains', in the print and other media. In fact, we have regular ads running in newspapers all over the country by various dental practices.



The President of Dental Council of India (DCI) Dr Mazumder, in a recent press conference in Hyderabad, has reiterated his stand to strictly enforce the code of ethics enshrined in the dentists act. The code of ethics has also been posted on the DCI web site.

We, as concerned, committed dental surgeons should insist that these codes are followed by one and all. This will ensure a level playing field for all the dental service providers whether individual or so-called 'corporate'. Or else, advertising should be allowed for all dental practices as this is the practice in certain countries.

We implore the DCI that strict action should be taken against the offenders, whether individuals or companies.

Another development that demands our attention is the number of seats that are going vacant in dental colleges around the country. The indications are that we have a large bank of our colleagues who are unable to find gainful employment or reasonable remunerations in the dental sector. We are also coming across lots of cases of dentists who have shifted to other professions because of a lack of opportunity. The fallout of this fact is that businesses are employing dentists for laughable remunerations and undermining our profession.

Our motive has to be to further developments and technological advances in the field of dentistry to benefit the population at large.

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