Dear Reader,

_Since the beginning of the year_ cosmetic dentistry_ has shown a strong presence at various international seminars, conferences, trade shows, and scientific meetings. The amount of positive feedback we have received thus far has encouraged us immensely and given more responsibility to our team in aiming to meet the expectations of our professional colleagues around the world. With the electronic edition of cosmetic dentistry now available at www.dental-tribune.com, our readers across the globe now have 24/7 access to information on the latest developments in the field.

It is encouraging to note that various aesthetic events are now hosted in Asia. Additionally, general dental associations are demonstrating increasing eagerness to invite speakers on aesthetic topics to their scientific meetings. As the demand for aesthetic procedures amongst our patients increases, so too does the demand for quality aesthetic dentistry lectures, training and accreditation programmes. Unfortunately, many Asian countries are still lagging behind owing to the lack of such activities at a national level. Because of financial and time constraints, participation in international aesthetic dentistry activities is not viable for many of our Asian colleagues. I suggest that a possible solution to this for our Asian dental professional associations, societies, academies and various educational centres is to utilise the advanced information technology available in the knowledge and skills dissemination process.

It is my pleasure to announce here that the South Asian Academy of Aesthetic Dentistry will launch its online aesthetic dentistry accreditation (fellowship) programme at www.dentistrysouthasia.com on November 2009. We believe that this effort is a milestone in the development of voluntary professional accreditation systems in South Asia. In addition, the Asia Pacific Dental Federation is planning to launch a two-year fellowship programme in aesthetic dentistry. The concept paper and syllabus for this programme were presented at the ICCDE board meeting during APDC Hong Kong 2009.

As always, I hope you will enjoy this new edition of cosmetic dentistry, in which we present a combination of clinical cases, expert opinion pieces and product information. I look forward to receiving your valuable feedback. Please feel welcome to share your clinical expertise and experiences with us.

Sincerely,

Dr Sushil Koirala
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