



## Open access: the future of scientific publishing

Dear Authors and Readers,

During the last few years, Oral Health and Preventive Dentistry has experienced an exponential increase in the number of submitted manuscripts, which clearly reflects the importance of the journal's focus for the scientific community.

New, cutting-edge scientific data on how to prevent and manage oral health and dental diseases needs fast publication and should be available anywhere, to anybody, without being 'locked behind paywalls'. During the last years, novel technological developments such as blogs, search engines, and social media have revolutionized online publications, thus leading to a rapid increase in the exposure of novel, pertinent information to the public. Another advantage of open access publishing is that the materials published online have no limitations compared to traditional printed issues, which additionally promotes the sharing of information.

Therefore, many editors and publishers of traditional printed journals have realized the need to take on the challenge and move to online open access publishing. Obviously, nothing will change in the way the review process is conducted, since this will ensure the continuous high quality of papers accepted in the journal.

I am convinced that this new format of scientific publishing is the right way to further increase the global inclusivity and recognition of Oral Health and Preventive Dentistry!

Anton Sculean  
Editor in Chief, Oral Health and Preventive Dentistry