

EDITORIAL

The supreme task of modern man is to think of new ideas and then to put them into practice. In scientific terms that is called research. The developing countries have to do research in all scientific fields and that includes dentistry. For research three factors are essential; one, desire to do research. Two, knowledge of the subject. Three, suitable facilities. Research demands devotion. There are no immediate gains in research. We need men and women with new ideas but willing to make personal sacrifice of time. Luckily young people in Pakistan (though not many) are now coming forward to do research.

There is growing keenness among young dental graduates to acquire more advanced knowledge. Gradually more journals are being made available in college libraries (though the number is still far too short). The third factor deals with finances and facilities. Unhappily both in public and private institutions research has the lowest priority.

One of the key components of this programme is faculty development for pursuing doctoral studies. Funding facilities should be available for financing seminars, workshops and conferences. These academic ventures provide a common forum for exchange of learning and knowledge. Research scholars in dentistry should put in more efforts to produce quality research work. Funding problems are there but if there is a will, there is a way.

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