

## Journal's Impartiality Questioned

**W**e are concerned about the reputation, integrity, and impartiality of the *Journal of the California Dental Association* due to the content and advertising in the October 2007 issue. First, dedicating all the scientific articles to the Caries Management By Risk Assessment, CAMBRA, topic at the same time as the CDA House of Delegates debates adoption of the main principles of CAMBRA places the *Journal* in the potential position of CAMBRA advocate. This dilemma was realized when Mr. Jon Roth, executive director of the CDA Foundation, argued that the House of Delegates should adopt the CAMBRA principles since the *Journal* had already agreed to publish the principles.

Of greater concern was the prominent placement of the two-page centerfold CariFree ad promoting "The Complete CAMBRA Solution" in the middle of a CDA article on CAMBRA. This ad, for a product never before marketed in the *Journal*, easily leaves the impression that the selection of CAMBRA as a topic was financially motivated.

To maintain the reputation, integrity, and impartiality of the official publication of the California Dental Association, the *Journal* must more carefully monitor the choice and timing of topics and articles as well as the placement and content of ads within the *Journal*. Avoiding even the appearance of a conflict of interest needs to be the highest priority of the *Journal of the California Dental Association*.

JASON W. PAIR, DDS  
GARY HERMAN, DDS  
GEORGE MARANON, DDS  
MARTIN C. COURTNEY, DDS

This ad, for a product never before marketed in the *Journal*, easily leaves the impression that the selection of CAMBRA as a topic was financially motivated.

### The Author Responds: Electropolishing Needs Further Study

I am writing this rebuttal to address the Letter to the Editor titled "The *Journal* Can Do Better" (December 2007 issue) with regard to my article your *Journal* published in its September issue titled, "Simplifying Endodontics With EndoSequence Rotary Instrumentation."

I would direct readers to the October issue of the *Journal of Endodontics* and the Anderson et al. article titled "Fracture Resistance of Electropolished Rotary Nickel-Titanium Endodontic Instruments."

This paper studied cyclic flexural fatigue and torsional strength comparing EndoWave, ProFile and RaCe rotary NiTi files. The authors stated in the article, "Overall, electropolished instruments performed significantly better than nonelectropolished instruments in cyclic fatigue testing and, to a lesser extent, in static torsional loading." Concluding, "Electropolishing may have beneficial effects in prolonging the fatigue life of rotary NiTi endodontic instruments. The benefits of electropolishing are likely to be caused by a reduction in surface irregularities that



serve as points for stress concentration and crack initiation."<sup>1</sup>

This appears to be supported by a 2006 article by Tripi et al., which concluded in a study comparing fatigue resistance of rotary nickel titanium endodontic instruments when looking at ProFile, RaCe, Hero and Mtwo that, "instrument design often proves to be an important factor in the fatigue resistance of NiTi rotary instruments" and "In RaCe instruments the electropolishing surface treatment increases the fracture fatigue resistance."<sup>2</sup>

I think we can all agree further study needs to be made in electropolishing before we conclude if this offers positive or no clinical benefits to endodontic rotary NiTi files.

GREGORI M. KURTZMAN, DDS

### REFERENCES

1. Anderson ME, Price JW, Parashos P, Fracture resistance of electropolished rotary nickel-titanium endodontic instruments. *J Endod* 33(10):1212-6, October 2007.
2. Tripi TR, Bonaccorso A, Condorelli GG, Cyclic fatigue of different nickel-titanium endodontic rotary instruments. *Oral Surg Oral Med Oral Pathol Oral Radiol Endod* 102(4):e106-14, October 2006; E-pub July 14, 2006.