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It is very hard to find somebody who does not agree that periodontology and its related sciences were the focus of dental research in the last few decades thanks to its unique and special mix of biology, basic sciences, medicine, and surgery. Interest in periodontology as a science and periodontics as a clinical practice was heightened even more after the proven and suggested links between periodontal disease and a host of relatively common systemic conditions, such as cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, arthritis, pneumonia, Alzheimer's disease and gestation outcome complications among others. Therefore, it was not surprising to dedicate this issue of the International Dental Journal of Students' Research (IDJSR) to periodontology in order to shed more light on what do university academics and their trainees contribute to this interesting and quickly progressing field.

This periodontology issue, which is the first special edition of IDJSR, includes studies originating from reputable university research centers in the east and the west (**Malaysia, Pakistan, Ireland, UK, USA, and Canada**) offering different perspectives and providing different levels of evidence ranging from case reports to systematic reviews in addition to reports of original research and short communications. The material presented covers appealing topics and addresses important questions of clinical relevance adding value to this issue through offering knowledge that could be directly translated into clinical practice.

Since it was first established, IDJSR took big strides towards achieving its goal as the students' committed research-dissemination hub and their exclusive vehicle to present scientific work and share intellectual output in the most pertinent topics. This special edition on periodontology is just another example of that commitment and will mark an important step forward for the IDJSR.

I hope you enjoy this issue as much as I enjoyed going over its versatile material. I would like to extend special thanks to the authors who participated. My thanks also go to the guest editor **Dr. Zeeshan Sheikh** who devoted this edition of the IDJSR to periodontology and honored me with the kind invitation to provide the "foreword section" as my humble contribution!

Best Wishes!