



Periodontist Role as an Oral Physician

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Editorial

In recent years, there is an increasing interest on two way periodontal systemic interrelationship. Effect of periodontitis on a numerous diseases like cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases, diabetes, preterm low birth weight babies have been scientifically validated under the heading of periodontal medicine. A new addition to this list may be *Helicobacter pylori* associated periodontitis. *H. pylorus* is known to cause numerous gastrointestinal diseases. Seventy Eight percent of subgingival plaque samples of periodontitis patients demonstrated *H. pylori* [1]. Epidemiological investigation over 10,000 subjects revealed a positive link between *H. pylori* associated gastritis and periodontitis [2]. Thirteen percent recurrence rate of gastritis was observed even after complete eradication from the stomach owing to the presence of *H. pylori* in oral cavity [3]. Combination of basic mechanical periodontal therapy and systemic triple antimicrobial therapy showed higher elimination rate of *H. pylori* compared to those without periodontal therapy [4]. Increase in antibiotic resistance due to accumulation of point mutations in the *H. pylori* DNA necessitated the development of new and alternative treatment regimes like photodynamic therapy, phytomedicine, probiotics, phage therapy etc which are in trial verge. Hence, in this “Era of Periodontal Preventive Medicine”, periodontist as an oral physician get opportunities in preventing and improving prognosis of several systemic diseases.

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