

**“I love dentistry because  
you can make a difference  
in your patient’s life”**

**INTERVIEW with Berk Ozogul**



**Berk Ozogul has got a PhD from the Gazi University in Ankara, Turkey. He is doing research in the field of Orthodontics.**

**AIM: Tell us something about yourself!**

I attended an IADS meeting in 2004 and it was a blast for me to meet many students from all around the world. Afterwards, in 2005, I was accepted in the Erasmus Exchange programme and had the great chance to visit Greece as a dental student for 4 months. I had my orthodontic treatment in high school and it was an interesting experience. My PhD education started in 2006 and this year I'll hopefully be graduating from the programme. I live in the capital of Turkey.

**AIM: Why did you decide to do your PhD?**

I decided to do a PhD to be able to work in the field of orthodontics in the future.

**AIM: What are advantages of your PhD?**

The advantages of my PhD are the following: treatment of 150 patients, learning a large variety of techniques.

**AIM: What about disadvantages of a PhD?**

The disadvantage of my PhD is that we have to treat a large number of patients, so there is less time for academic research.

**AIM: What are your wishes for future research?**

When I participate in a research project, my goal is to provide useful and new information as a result of the research. Acquiring

unbiased and detailed information about the research is becoming harder nowadays. We are hurrying up to access the necessary knowledge about the research besides trying to understand what to do with the knowledge. With the help of technological access options, we can obtain hundreds of articles and case presentations in a couple of minutes, but we don't have unbiased criteria for determining which research is more reliable. For future research more meta-analysis studies should be carried out, to analyze and classify previous studies and case presentations. In this way, a dentist's most valuable "time" is saved. Patients always ask me for more treatment possibilities and future research should be focused to find more treatment alternatives.

**AIM: And why do you love dentistry?**

When I was 7 years old, I had my first meeting with the dentist and he was talking to me and smiling all the time. Later, I also had orthodontic treatment. I liked the idea of fixing crooked teeth with orthodontics and my orthodontist was a really outgoing person, smiling all the time. I noticed that patients could be arranged according to his holiday schedule. After those good impressions I decided to be an orthodontist and now I'm in my last year of PhD. I love dentistry because you can make a good and visible difference in your patient's life.