

Dear Reader,

_On 5 March, the Root Canal Anatomy Project (<http://rootcanalanatomy.blogspot.com>) will have been online for two years. This project was conceived in the Laboratory of Endodontics of the University of São Paulo, Brazil. During this time, the blog has registered over 210,000 visitors from 161 countries and the videos have been watched more than 50,000 times. Considering that root-canal anatomy is a specific subject in dentistry, we believe that our aim is being achieved.

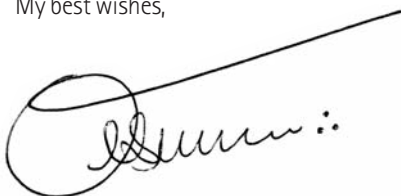
The original goal of this project was the development and availability of non-commercial educational resources in the endodontic field for educators, scholars, students, clinicians and the general public. The main purpose is to demonstrate the complexity of the root-canal system in different groups of teeth and the limitations of some procedures related to endodontic therapy. In a world where 3-D entertainment rules, it is unthinkable that dentists, dental students and patients are still being educated using only 2-D models such as radiographs and photographs. The project emphasises the importance of animated images of the internal anatomy of the teeth in the educational process.

People have asked me why the content of this project has not yet been commercialised. Basically, there are two reasons for this. The first one is that the technology and training of our staff were only possible because of a government sponsorship. So the government believed in our project and public money was granted in order to develop our idea. It is thus only fair to make the project content available in the form of free educational material.

The second reason has been guided by the following: dividing to multiply. Since the blog first went online, the number of people who appreciate and respect our work has increased exponentially. I have been invited to travel worldwide to talk about this project and had the unique opportunity to experience other cultures and met amazing people I would otherwise not have met. Our images have been used on invitation cards, personal web pages, educational flyers, and even on some covers of **roots**. Amazing! It has been a wonderful experience to be a giver and a receiver at the same time. This is the most beautiful of paradoxes. It is in the very act of giving of ourselves to others that we truly receive all for which we could ever possibly wish.

While this editorial is not full of references to the newest innovations in endodontics or the answers to your deep clinical questions, I am sure that you will be able to find such information in the pages of this marvellous magazine. My purpose here is another one. Considering that this is the first issue of **roots** in 2013, I would like to wish you a year full of new friendships, happiness, peace, and unforgettable moments with your family. I hope that you will keep providing the best of your skills in order to fulfil your patients' needs and use our gift to provide pain release to make this world a better place. Keep giving! Giving is an act of gratitude. Plant the seeds of generosity through your acts of giving, and you will grow the fruits of abundance for yourself and those around you. Thank you for supporting us throughout these years.

My best wishes,



Prof. Marco Versiani, DDS, MS, PhD
Major Dental Officer (Brazilian Military Police)
Specialist in endodontics, didactics and bioethics



Prof. Marco Versiani, DDS, MS, PhD