

Dear Reader,



Dr Chris J. Lampert
Guest Editor

The success of modern endodontic treatment can largely be attributed to the work of Dr Herbert Schilder. This is not because he pioneered 3-D obturation with warm gutta-percha, not because he defined the first mechanical and biological objectives for shaping and cleaning a root-canal system, not because he stood by his principles in the face of criticism, but because he raised the bar for endodontic success to a new level. Numerous gifted educators and clinicians have followed and furthered Dr Schilder's principles and techniques. In fact, in this edition of **roots**, two contributing authors were trained by Dr Schilder.

Historically, endodontic treatment has been considered the last option for saving a tooth prior to extraction. The option of endodontic treatment was compared to that of not having a tooth, which was an easy decision to make. Presently, dental implants are the comparative treatment against which endodontic success is measured. Many believe, and I agree, that this comparison has also raised the bar for endodontic treatment success to a new level.

Raising the level of endodontic treatment begins with knowing when to treat a compromised case and when not to treat a hopeless case. Correctly determining this improves the success of endodontic treatment. Utilising technology such as cone-beam imaging gives clinicians diagnostic information about the aetiology of endodontic pathology that is critical to determining whether a case can be treated endodontically. Treating complicated cases with advanced micro-surgical endodontic treatment is also required to improve the success of endodontic treatment. It is essential that current and future generations of endodontic clinicians continue to practise and improve micro-surgical endodontic treatment.

I am honoured to contribute to this edition of **roots**. As you will see in the following articles, **roots** has become a premier international endodontic publication. It offers a forum for renowned clinicians and educators to share their knowledge and expertise with colleagues in all fields of dentistry. I hope you will enjoy this issue of **roots** as much as I did.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Lampert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr Chris J. Lampert
Guest Editor
Endodontist
Portland, Oregon, USA