Since 2007, the Chinese Journal of Dental Research (Chin J Dent Res) has changed its publishing policy, from previously mainly translating into English representative research papers from the main Chinese dental journals, to publishing only original articles. This was a big change in policy and an important step for the Journal, especially in terms of its international influence in dentistry.

The first issue of 2007 was published in Germany in June. With the support of dental researchers at home and abroad, the issue included the invited review jointly contributed by Professor Lijian JIN, University of Hong Kong, and Professor Cun-Yu WANG, University of Michigan, USA. Original articles were from Professor Yan JIN's group, the Forth Military Medical University, China; Professor Jie YANG's group, Temple University, USA; Professor Wan Tao CHEN's group, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China; Professor Guang Yan YU's and Professor Sheng Lin LI's groups, Peking University, China; Professor Song Ling WANG's group, the Capital Medical University, China, and Professor Bin PENG's group, Wuhan University, China. The issue also contained two clinical case reports contributed by Professor Yi Fang ZHAO's group, Wuhan University, China, and Professor Wei ZHANG's group, Peking University, China. On behalf of the editorial office of the Chin J Dent Res, I would like to express our great thanks to the above professors and their team members. Meanwhile, I would also like to express our great thanks to the reviewers and Quintessence Publishing Co. Ltd. for their great efforts in publishing the first issue of 2007 on schedule. Special thanks also to Mr. Horst-Wolfgang Haase and Mr. Christian Haase for their great efforts and support of publishing the journal for so many years. Due to time constraints and limited experience, there may be some areas for improvement in the issue.

The current issue includes an invited review on the clinicopathologically distinct entity of unicystic ameloblastoma, contributed by Professor Tie-Jun LI, Peking University. It also includes original articles from domestic universities, which partially reflect current dental research in China, contributed by Dr. Ye Hua GAN et al, Dr. Xiao Ling WANG et al, Dr. Yun DING et al, and Dr. Sheng Lin LI et al, Peking University; Dr. Xin Quan JIANG et al, Shanghai Jiao Tong University; Dr. Kun TIAN et al and Dr. Jing Lin ZHOU et al, Sichuan University. We are especially pleased and grateful that Dr. Tom Struys et al, Hasselt University, Belgium, Dr. Sufyan Garoushi et al, University of Turku, Finland, and Dr. Gang SHEN et al, University of Sydney, also contributed to the current issue.

Finally, I sincerely welcome contributions from all over the world. I would like to emphasise that for the authors whose native language is not English, it is better to consult an English-speaking scientist to polish your manuscript before submission, in order for the reviewers and readers to better understand your paper. With support from colleagues at home and abroad, I believe the Journal will gradually become internationally known, reflecting the dental research activities of China and other nations.

Xu Chen MA
Editor-in-Chief