

letters

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to: *Evidence-based Dentistry*, c/o Nature Publishing Group, Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 6XS, UK

From Tony Quant

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Sir: I liked the new format of EBD vol. 3; the articles were 'easy read' and not too time consuming to digest. As an 'old' oral surgeon I of course read the item on Warfarin in depth. I was most interested to read the discussion on the dental management of anticoagulated patients. It told me nothing new but gave me confidence that my management protocol – which has evolved over the years since my Consultant Board in 1973 – conforms to the evidence presented in this paper: namely, check the current INR. If less than 4, proceed providing the 'dental surgery' contemplated is not too extensive. Take local measures to reduce the chance of haemorrhage and keep the patient under observation (at least until the haemostatic effect of ones local anaesthetic has worn off). The real evidence lies in experience! Unfortunately her fees are very high.

Tony Quant
Aylesbury

The Editor replies

Many thanks for your observation on the latest issue of EBD. I am glad that you like the new format.

I appreciate your comment on experience. I have always considered that the evidence-based approach was a combination of the best science with experience. I feel that the goal of EBD is to get all dentists to appreciate that by becoming more evidence-based they can 'fast track' experience to improve the quality of care provided to patients. As you say the fees of experience are high, often for both the patient and the clinician.