

HONOURS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS

Chair of PEC

Mick Armstrong has been re-elected as Chair of the BDA's Principal Executive Committee (PEC). Mick has been a member of the PEC since its inception in July 2012, and was first elected Chair in March 2014.

Outstanding endo case

Foundation dentist Rikhil Ruparelia has earned a Reciprocal Motor Kit in recognition of his outstanding entry into the Young Dentist Endodontic Award, for his case report of a successful endodontic retreatment. The Award was established by the Harley Street Centre for Endodontics and celebrates case studies that reflect careful diagnosis and evidence-based treatment planning, with a successful outcome.

Appointments Committee

The GDC has appointed a new group of members to its independent Appointments Committee: Rosie Varley (Lay - Chair); Martyn Green (Registrant - Member); and Tim Skelton (Lay - Member). The Committee's role is to oversee the recruitment, training and performance management of the GDC's independent Fitness to Practise Panel.

CQC Advisor

John Milne has been appointed the new National Professional Dental Advisor at the Care Quality Commission (CQC). Dr Milne will take the position in March, after his tenure as chair of the BDA's General Dental Practice Committee (GDPC) ends.

New Year Honours - correction

Professor Jennifer Elizabeth Gallagher, Professor of Oral Health Strategy at King's College London, receives an MBE for services to oral health in the New Year Honours - not an OBE, as stated in Volume 218 issue 2 of the *BDJ*. We apologise for this error.

AN ORTHODONTIC REGISTRAR'S LIFE

I am usually up by 7 am at home in Woodford Green, Essex. I try to go for a run in the local park in the mornings but if not, the first thing I usually do is hit the snooze button.

If I am feeling particularly healthy that day I may have some muesli and fruit at home for breakfast but have been known to scoff a *pain au chocolat* at work if running behind.

I am incredibly lucky to live only 25 minutes away by tube from the Eastman Dental Hospital - or 20 if absolutely necessary!

I work Monday to Friday at the Eastman Dental Hospital. These ten sessions consist of six sessions treating patients, one to two sessions working with consultants on new patient clinics and the rest for revision for exams and admin.

My responsibilities as an orthodontic registrar are similar to those of other specialty trainees. My primary responsibility is to the patients I treat to ensure that they have the best, evidence based treatment available to them undertaken to the highest quality I can provide. Outside of the clinical field, all registrars within the Eastman undertake a two-year Masters programme involving a research dissertation. These, along with audits, presentations and committees, mean that we all learn to spin a number of plates at once early in the programme.

The beauty of being in an Institute like the Eastman with its reputation and transport links is that I have had exposure to the whole range of orthodontic patients - from young children requiring interceptive treatment or short periods of treatment following trauma - to the orthodontic treatment of adults in preparation for orthognathic surgery. Each of these patients, and sometimes their parents, has specific needs and ideas regarding orthodontic treatment, some of which can be challenging.

On Saturdays, I work as an

SPINNING MANY PLATES



Sameer Patel, 28, is an orthodontic registrar at the Eastman Dental Hospital, and has just completed an MSc in Orthodontics. Sameer qualified from the Royal London Hospital in 2009; after VT, he undertook SHO posts in restorative dentistry and in maxillofacial surgery. Alongside his current role, he has also worked as an associate in general practice one day a week since 2010, has taken on the running of the practice's training programmes, and is undertaking a distance learning certificate in Medical Education with the University of Dundee.

associate from 8.30 am to 1.30 pm in Romford, about an hour's drive away, treating NHS patients. We have a specialist orthodontist within the practice who undertakes private orthodontic treatment at Collier Row and NHS orthodontics at our sister practices. The pace of work is naturally different given the nature of the treatment and the training setting at the Eastman, but the largest difference is probably the patient base. Within Collier Row, the patients are mostly older patients and there are often in-depth discussions regarding the costs of treatment, which can often be the deciding factor in patient choice. All orthodontic treatment I provide at the Eastman is 'free at the point of use' so there are no, potentially difficult, discussions regarding cost.