A Leap of Faith Brings Rewards

Sometimes a leap of faith pays off in a very big way. For George Brown, DMD, MSD, making such a leap a decade ago was a smart and fruitful decision, both personally and professionally.

Dr. Brown, a native of Lexington, Kentucky, who attended the University of Kentucky for his undergraduate studies and dental school, practiced for five years in a group practice in Lexington before opening up a private practice with his wife, Rena.

“I headed up striking a conversation with Dr. Ken Chance, who was then an instructor at the UK. When I mentioned to him that I was considering a residency in endodontics, he strongly encouraged me to apply to the CWRU School of Dental Medicine,” recalls Dr. Brown.

Dr. Chance’s recruitment efforts worked. Dr. Brown and his wife sold their practice and their home and moved to Cleveland with their two young sons. “It truly was a leap of faith,” Dr. Brown says. “We uprooted our personal and professional lives and moved to a place like it…it’s a true melting pot of cultures and I value that greatly.”

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Dr. Brown completed his endodontics residency in 2004 after what he calls “a truly remarkable experience.” “The preparation I received during my undergraduate studies and dental school, practiced for five years in a group practice in Lexington before opening up a private practice with his wife, Rena.”

Today, Dr. Brown has a busy practice in Peachtree City, Georgia. So busy, in fact, that he will be adding Dr. Candace DeVeaux as a partner in July when she completes her endodontics residency at the CWRU School of Dental Medicine. “When it was time to add another practitioner to my practice, I knew where I needed to go to find the best talent,” Dr. Brown explains.

The CWRU School of Dental Medicine has done its part to make that leap of faith worthwhile. “When I tell people that I trained at CWRU, there’s instant respect,” Dr. Brown explains. “The CWRU School of Dental Medicine has done its part to make that leap of faith worthwhile. “When I tell people that I trained at CWRU, there’s instant respect.”

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Introducing New Fellows and Residents

NAVID AKBARZADEH

Navid Akbarzadeh, a native of Tehran, Iran, came to the United States in 2003. He earned his B.S. with honors at the University of Toronto in 2007 and will earn his DDS from the CWRU School of Dental Medicine in May 2015. His interests include furthering the use of cone beam computed tomography in a diagnostic tool in endodontics and treating dental trauma to the teeth with the goal of providing the best possible care. Dr. Mickel’s teaching style and his vision for this program made him decide to attend CWRU. As an endodontist in Iran, he practiced for two years, including a one-year rotation at the Isfahan University of Medical Science. “I chose to pursue endodontics in the United States because of the high quality of education and treatment. The opportunity ‘to own a beautiful smile’ was the main reason.” He plans to practice endodontics and give back to his community. He is interested in regenerative endodontics. Navid’s father is a urologist practicing in Iran and his brother is pursuing his medical education.

Isaac Pratt

Human β-Defensin-3 (hBD-3) expression in the Infamed Pulp: A Comparative Study

The antimicrobial peptide hBD-3 is a key player in inflammatory responses. To investigate the effect of hBD-3 on the regulation of mRNA in an odontoblast, we studied hBD-3 expression in an odontoblast cell line. The results indicate that hBD-3 expression is significantly higher in inflamed pulp compared to non-inflamed pulp.

Khalid Abdulaziz

The Effect of Smoking on hBD-2 and hBD-3 expression in the Dental Pulp

The antimicrobial peptide hBD-2 is known to be induced in response to inflammatory stimuli. The effect of smoking on the expression of hBD-2 and hBD-3 in the dental pulp is not known. To investigate this, we quantified the expression of hBD-2 and hBD-3 in the dental pulp of smokers and non-smokers.

Comparative Study

Launched in 2013, Gaps in the Dental Pulp: An In Vitro Study

The aim of this study was to investigate the effect of hBD-2 on the expression of mRNA in an odontoblast cell line.

Martina Gerges

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Carolyn Ghatas Ayoub

Comparison of L-1 and TNF-α expression in Human Dental Pulp of Smokers vs. Non-Smokers

Smoking compromises many aspects of the host’s immune response and has been reported to negatively affect the endodontic outcome. It is probable, therefore, that smoking may play a role in the pathogenesis of pulpal disease. Our study reports pulpal concentrations of TNF-α to be significantly lower among smokers compared to non-smokers in the periapical region. Understanding the role of beta-defensins in odontoblastic behavior may contribute to the endodontic regeneration procedure.

Daisy Bachala

The Importance of Proper Endodontic Diagnos Prior and Subsequent to Restorative Treatment

Pulp testing is an essential part of treatment planning. It is speculated that most teeth are not pulp tested prior to placement of new restorations. There are limited studies that evaluate the pulpal diagnoses associated with various restorations on teeth that need non-surgical root canal treatment. The purpose of this study was to investigate the different pulpal diagnoses associated with different restorations on teeth that required NSRCT.

Navid Khajehinjadeh

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Navid Khajehinjadeh is a friendlier clinic professional, superb for the board exam and the endodontic clinical board. He has a passion for teaching in the field of endodontics. He is a native of Iran, Iran. Navid graduated from the Isfahan School of Dental Medicine. He is interested in post-operative pain after treatment and microbial species in post-operative pain. He hopes to become board certified and obtain an academic and program director position. Navid cherishes watching his son’s team in the United Kingdom. In his spare time, Navid enjoys playing tennis.

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One-Year Fellows

Magdy Beshay

Magdy Beshay has a shared passion for endodontics and music. He became interested in endodontics in New Egypt while in dental school and worked as an assistant to an endodontist there. After coming to the United States, he worked as a dental assistant in a New York dental practice. His interest in learning more about techniques in endodontics continued. He earned his degree from Ain Shams University in Cairo, Egypt in 2007. I am grateful for being accepted into one of the best universities in the nation and one of the strongest endodontics programs in the country,” he says. His main interests include playing music and anything that plays a role in his church.

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