Proceedings of the Pulp Biology and Regeneration Group Symposium 2013: Pulp Regeneration—Translational Opportunities

From March 24–26, 2013, the Pulp Biology and Regeneration Group (PBRG) of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) held a Symposium in San Francisco, which took place directly after the IADR General Session. PBRG is an active group within the IADR, and satellite symposia take place every 3–5 years. The 2013 symposium was entitled “Pulp Regeneration—Translational Opportunities,” which reflects on the advances that have been made in both research and clinics regarding approaches to dental pulp regeneration.

Fifteen speakers were invited to make oral presentations. They shared insights regarding dental pulp development, stem cells, inflammation, signaling pathways, tissue engineering, and clinical approaches and findings regarding dental pulp regeneration. Traditional poster sessions also were held, as were discussion groups—a new format—in which participants broke into groups to discuss 3 different topics of interest. The symposium concluded with a vivid podium discussion, during which critical and burning questions were raised and discussed by speakers and participants. Interestingly, one of the hot topics was the assessment, character, and quality of newly formed tissue inside the root canal after clinical revascularization or regenerative procedures.

The valuable information exchanged and fruitful communication obtained during the 3 days of the meeting are now summarized and documented in this online supplement of the *Journal of Endodontics*. Fourteen manuscripts were submitted based on the oral presentations given at the symposium. In addition, the essential contributions to the podium discussion were compiled and are highlighted in a separate article, which rounds off the proceedings. We consider this to be an important and valuable supplement, which may be used by students, researchers, and clinicians involved in pulp regeneration and regenerative endodontics. The evolving partnership of the scientific PBRG and the clinical American Academy of Endodontists (AAE) is exciting, and it may strengthen science in order to foster translational, clinically relevant approaches, which patients around the world will benefit from in the future.

The PBRG board is delighted and proud to present this special supplement. The publication would not have been possible without not only the authors’ contributions but also the support of the AAE, and especially the Editor of the *Journal of Endodontics*, Dr Ken Hargreaves. We furthermore are indebted to Dr Ove Peters for organizing the local symposium at the University of the Pacific in San Francisco, Dr Anthony Smith for leading and summarizing the podium session, and Dr Gottfried Schmalz for his valuable help composing the scientific program. Both Tony and Gottfried, who have been tirelessly active in the field of pulp biology and also PBRG, retired recently. We wish them the very best for the future. Now we call on young academics with a passion for the small tissue called dental pulp to carry on and to develop and exploit the translational opportunities for pulp regeneration discussed during the symposium.

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