

# Elements *of the* Smile

ZIV SIMON, DMD, MSC

## GUEST EDITOR

**Ziv Simon, DMD, MSC**, is a diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and a fellow of the Royal College of Dentists in Canada. He lectures and publishes on tissue reconstruction, implant dentistry, and esthetic periodontal surgery. He also maintains a private practice limited to periodontics and reconstructive surgery in Beverly Hills, Calif.

It is an honor to edit this special edition involving the elements of the smile. I was fortunate to collaborate with great clinicians who contributed manuscripts and were able to share their wealth of knowledge in the different disciplines of dentistry.

A smile is made up of elements like lips, dentition, and gingivae.

When all elements are joined in the appropriate proportions, they act in synergy to create a beautiful smile. In order to successfully treat complex cases we need to understand the principles of esthetics such as symmetry, dominance, composition, and repeated ratios. These have been used for thousands of years by architects, mathematicians, and artists. We, dentists, need to work under all of the latter capacities to provide our patients with the pleasing esthetic outcome they desire.

An interdisciplinary comprehensive approach to diagnosis, treatment planning, and the active phase of treatment is essential and is demonstrated in this issue's articles. I hope you will find this edition informative and useful in your practice, and that it will help you achieve esthetic and predictable results for your patients.