

# Translational Research and Innovation in Dentistry

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**T**ranslational research aims to bridge the gap between fundamental research and commercial application. Looking for innovation is a research priority in the international agenda to improve the quality of life and the socioeconomic development of our society through technology transfer. Nevertheless, innovative development requires a solid research infrastructure that provides the research group with the tools and mechanisms to perform foundational research, develop new research methodologies, and enhance research collaboration and communication between different disciplines. It is also necessary that institutions and investigators skilled in good clinical practices can help assure proper research conduct to develop new science with quality, efficiency, and sustainability.

In this edition, the *Revista Odonto Ciência* (Journal of Dental Science) has the privilege of publishing the second interview of the special series on science transfer. Our guest is Professor Thomas Van Dyke, a world renowned leader in translational research in the field of Periodontics and systemic diseases. Dr. Van Dyke is the Vice President for Clinical and Translational Research and Chair of the Department of Periodontology of the Forsyth Institute, which is an independent non-profit organization affiliated with Harvard School of Dental Medicine and Harvard Medical School in the USA. Forsyth's history of industry collaboration and support include financial support for exploratory research, to preclinical studies, and clinical trials and product development. It is a pleasure to have Dr. Van Dyke's insight on translational research in Dentistry.