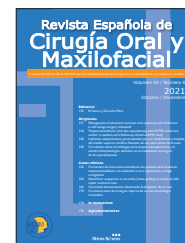




## Revista Española de Cirugía Oral y Maxilofacial

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### Editorial

## The future and Groucho Marx

In a coherent but realistic analysis of our specialty, we have a series of ingredients that allow us to foresee its future more than acceptable: 1) it already has a history that makes it not considered a young specialty but rather a mature specialty; 2) it is widely implemented in first-rate hospitals (it is not yet in all capitals, but it is in all autonomous communities); 3) there is the possibility of private activity, even specialized in different topics (implantology, cosmetic surgery, facial deformity surgery); 4) There is uneven, but acceptable, penetration at the university level, with collaboration in research projects and a more than successful response to the challenge posed by the SARS-CoV-19 COVID pandemic.

The future of many actions of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon will have to do with endoscopy, stem cells or navigation, and even with all of them at the same time. This future is based on a humble performance, generally, carried out by all of us throughout the years that have preceded us. In other words, humility is considered a simple quality that consists in the acceptance of our defects, weaknesses and limitations. If this is so, we will be much more prepared to eliminate most of the factors that can weaken or limit us.

On the other hand, within the object of the scientific society called SECOM-CyC (Spanish Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Head and Neck) is "everything that is directly or indirectly related to the specialty of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, the promotion and defense of the general interest and common interests, both of its members and of those beneficiaries who meet the conditions and characteristics required by the nature and purposes of the Company, serving all of them, as well as the development, development and promotion and defense of the specialty of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, both nationally and internationally". It should be in the interest of all of us to progress in the benefits that can be offered to our patients or to the employers who manage our patients.

In this sense, in recent times, we have had to carry out an arduous but very solid defense of the new lines of training that our residents and in general all those surgeons, young or not, who want to progress in the development of the different techniques, taking into account that they are located at the level of our legitimate field of action: the face and neck, with special emphasis on the oral cavity. The ETR (European Training Requirements) must be adapted to modern times, now and in the future.

Precisely and, using the discussion on ETR, our Specialty has been branded (by other doctors from bordering specialties) as superfluous and dispensable, and that it should not aspire to new fields of training and action. All Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery performances (according to these giddy colleagues) could be replaced by other doctors from other specialties (from Traumatologists to Plastic Surgeons). Big mistake!... Or rather nonsense, when to defend difficult arguments one meddles in the ins and outs of others without knowing them thoroughly.

Thanks to the coherence and sensible discussion that takes place in Europe, and to the invaluable help of the efforts of our colleagues, Doctors José Luis López-Cedrún, Fernando García Marín and Julio Acero, the ETRs of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Specialty will have enriched the European level and (contrary to what our aggressors intended) have left the door open to other surgical actions, expanding our range of action, with which our specialty may be more powerful and versatile in the future.

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On the other hand, the future Specialties Law is “in its infancy” and we believe that our attitude has to be in the future, as it has always been, of collaboration and generosity (how could it be otherwise), but preserving and defending, on the part of our Society, the objective that has been previously exposed at the beginning of this Editorial. Those responsible for Societies and institutions must apply ourselves to defend our actions, good patient management and serenity and prudence in interdisciplinary relationships. If not, the sentence pronounced by Groucho Marx will be fulfilled: “Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it anywhere, diagnosing it incorrectly and applying the wrong remedies”.

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