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## From the desk of Editor- in-Chief.....

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Oral health is essential for general health, but not all have access to the oral health care services they need; the frail elderly, patient who have special needs or medically compromised, homeless people, young children, poor people, and patients in racial/ethnic minority groups face considerable barriers in accessing dental care and have poorer oral health than the rest of the population. The purpose of community service in medical/dental education is to cultivate community-responsible health professionals.

The dental health care providers and their community service in any nation play a pivotal role in bridging the gap between the oral health care and social service system. Providing service to the community helps fills the gap in resources, strengthens communication & social connections and improves the lives of others. It is a great way to meet people from all walks of life, creating connectedness as well as tolerance for people who are different from you. It also helps the volunteers to forget their own troubles, which can reduce stress. This in turn increases good health outcomes due to greater feelings of happiness, strengthening the immune system.

There are many ways to give back to the community like dental check up & treatment camps, free denture camps, health fairs, awareness events, screening camps, carnivals etc. by being involved in different organizations, we have better grasp on the ins and outs of public health. The unmet oral health needs keep us motivated. Community services always helps us to make better individual, allowing us to learn new skills & teaches us the importance of helping others. In my opinion, by giving back, I see the hope that is instilled in those who have little or nothing. The community based camp approach is an effective method of active learning as it involves integration of social sciences with a medical domain, task oriented assignments, and active community involvement. Two day denture camp is a unique community program to deliver oral and dental care for the mass at their doorsteps, free of cost, for the rural and semi-urban population. Till now we have done lot of uphill denture camps keeping in mind that mountains may look high, but when we begin to climb and reach the top we say it is not so high.

Your's:

**Dr. Himanshu Aeran**

**Editor-in- Chief**

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