



Editorial

Insights into Volume 67, Issue 3, 2026 of the Portuguese Journal of Stomatology, Dental Medicine and Maxillofacial Surgery

Introdução ao Número 3 do Volume 67 de 2026 da Revista Portuguesa de Estomatologia, Medicina Dentária e Cirurgia Maxilofacial

Jorge N.R. Martins¹ , Duarte Marques^{1,*} 

¹ Associate Editor

² Editor-in-Chief

We are pleased to welcome our readers to Volume 67, Issue 3 of the Portuguese Journal of Stomatology, Dental Medicine and Maxillofacial Surgery (Revista Portuguesa de Estomatologia, Medicina Dentária e Cirurgia Maxilofacial). As we enter the final quarter of 2026, it is an appropriate time to conduct a preliminary assessment of the journal's performance and recent evolution.

The journal's bibliometric indicators have remained relatively stable over recent years. The SJR indicator was 0.151 in 2023, 0.155 in 2024, and 0.149 in 2025, representing only a marginal decrease in the most recent year. Similarly, citations per document increased from 0.306 in 2023 to 0.376 in 2024, before slightly falling to 0.367 in 2025. Although data for 2026 are not yet available, the journal's editorial activity during the first nine months of the year provides encouraging signs of increasing interest and selectivity.

In 2023, the journal received 96 new submissions, with a mean time to first decision of 85 days and 50 manuscripts rejected (52.1%). In 2024, 82 manuscripts were submitted, the time to first decision increased to 132 days, and 52 manuscripts were rejected (63.4%). In 2025, 80 new submissions were received, with 141 days to first decision and 42 rejections (52.5%). Remarkably, in the first nine months of 2026 alone, the journal has already received 106 new submissions and reduced the time to first decision to 87 days. The journal has rejected 67 manuscripts, corresponding to a rejection rate of 63.2%.

With three months remaining in the year, these figures suggest increasing interest in the journal, improved editorial efficiency, and greater selectivity regarding the scientific contributions accepted for publication.

The present issue includes eight new contributions: seven original research articles and one clinical case report. It covers topics ranging from forensic dentistry and biomaterials to endodontics, implantology, and oral pathology.

The original research article "Awareness of forensic odontology and child abuse recognition among dentists"¹ evaluates knowledge among 406 dental students and practitioners in Turkey. Despite the participants' general awareness, they showed important uncertainties concerning medico-legal responsibilities and reporting procedures, emphasizing the need to strengthen forensic odontology and training in child abuse identification throughout dental education and professional development.

In "Micro-computed tomography characterization of three-dimensionally printed denture base resins: an in vitro descriptive pilot study"², micro-computed tomography is used to characterize internal defects and porosity in 3D-printed denture base materials. The evaluated specimens showed no detectable internal defects and very low porosity. However, the pilot design warrants cautious interpretation and further controlled investigation.

The study "Prevalence of *radix molaris* in mandibular molars of a Portuguese subpopulation"³ evaluates 1641 mandib-

* Corresponding authors.

E-mail address: duarte.marques@edu.ulisboa.pt (Duarte Marques)

<http://doi.org/10.24873/j.rpemd.2026.06.1589>

1646-2890/© 2026 Sociedade Portuguesa de Estomatologia e Medicina Dentária. Published by SPEDM.

This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>).

ular molars using cone-beam computed tomography. *Radix molaris* had a prevalence of 1.34%, with predominance of *radix entomolaris*. Recognizing this uncommon anatomical variation remains clinically important for preventing missed canals and endodontic treatment failure.

"Influence of body posture on surface electromyographic functional indices during maximum voluntary clenching"⁴ evaluates electromyographic recordings in healthy adults across sitting, standing, and supine positions. The investigated indices demonstrated high within-session repeatability and were minimally affected by posture, supporting reproducibility under controlled conditions while identifying areas that require further clinical validation.

The article "Effects of Fluor Protector S extracts on gingival fibroblast metabolic activity in vitro"⁵ investigates the biological response of human gingival fibroblasts to different extract dilutions. Less diluted extracts produced greater reductions in relative metabolic activity, particularly at 24 hours, supporting further investigation using complementary biological methods and models more representative of clinical conditions.

In "Accuracy of intraoral scanners and photogrammetry for full-arch implant-supported rehabilitations: an in vitro study"⁶, the authors compare different digital impression methods in four- and six-implant configurations. Photogrammetry-based systems generally demonstrated lower discrepancies than intraoral scanners, while six-implant configurations showed reduced accuracy, highlighting the influence of acquisition technology and scanning span.

The paper "Regenerative strategies in apical surgery with and without biomaterials: a systematic review"⁷ assesses regenerative approaches following apicoectomy. Evidence from 18 clinical studies suggests that biomaterials combined with biological stimulation may benefit selected complex defects. Nonetheless, heterogeneous and generally low-certainty evidence reinforces the need for individualized clinical decisions and more robust research.

Finally, the clinical case report, "Paradental cyst mimicking a dentigerous cyst in the mandibular third molar region: a case report"⁸, describes a diagnostically challenging lesion initially considered a dentigerous cyst. Integration of clinical, radiographic, and histopathological findings established the diagnosis of a paradental cyst, emphasizing the importance of careful differential diagnosis of odontogenic lesions.

Taken together, the contributions presented in this issue illustrate how scientific development depends on the continuous involvement of researchers, academics, and clini-

cians. We therefore invite all members of our scientific and professional community to contribute actively to the generation, critical evaluation, and dissemination of knowledge. Through rigorous research and the sharing of clinically relevant evidence, we can collectively advance our disciplines and, ultimately, improve the quality of care provided to our patients.

REFERENCES

1. Gürçan AT, Tatlı E, Ozen B. Awareness of forensic odontology and child abuse recognition among dentists. *Rev Port Estomatol Med Dent Cir Maxilofac*. 2026;67:113-112.
2. Norton P, Figueiral MH, Sampaio-Fernandes MA. Micro-computed tomography characterization of three-dimensionally printed denture base resins: an in vitro descriptive pilot study. *Rev Port Estomatol Med Dent Cir Maxilofac*. 2026;67:123-130.
3. Ferreira A, Braga AC, Pina-Vaz I, Mesquita P, Ferreira I. Prevalence of *radix molaris* in mandibular molars of a Portuguese subpopulation. *Rev Port Estomatol Med Dent Cir Maxilofac*. 2026;67:131-138.
4. Cabrita J, Caramês J, Marques D. Influence of body posture on surface electromyographic functional indices during maximum voluntary clenching. *Rev Port Estomatol Med Dent Cir Maxilofac*. 2026;67:139-149.
5. Coelho MM, Cardoso-Martins I, Silva N, Marques JF, Mata A, Marques PF. Effects of Fluor Protector S extracts on gingival fibroblast metabolic activity in vitro. *Rev Port Estomatol Med Dent Cir Maxilofac*. 2026;67:150-158.
6. Pinto JP, Martins JNR, Navarro JM, Caramês JM, Marques DS. Accuracy of intraoral scanners and photogrammetry for full-arch implant-supported rehabilitations: an in vitro study. *Rev Port Estomatol Med Dent Cir Maxilofac*. 2026;67:159-169.
7. Simões A, Carvalho JP, Silva T, Melo-Ferraz A, Miller P. Regenerative strategies in apical surgery with and without biomaterials: a systematic review. *Rev Port Estomatol Med Dent Cir Maxilofac*. 2026;67:170-183.
8. Hurtado-Celotti D, Andrés-Veiga N, Cobo-Vázquez C, Martínez-Rodríguez N, Fernández-Cáliz F, Meniz-García C. Paradental cyst mimicking a dentigerous cyst in the mandibular third molar region: a case report. *Rev Port Estomatol Med Dent Cir Maxilofac*. 2026;67:184-193.

ORCID

Jorge N.R. Martins  0000-0002-6932-2038
Duarte Marques  0000-0003-1966-8281