

## Preface



Sidney L. Bourgeois, Jr., DDS  
Guest Editor

What does it mean to be a doctor? In one sense, it means being a teacher. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with such a fine group of oral and maxillofacial surgeons, and the opportunity to be Guest Editor of the *Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinics*, as a means to reach out to our surgical community to fulfill that sense of being a teacher. In another sense, being a doctor means we are detectives. I do not mean to conjure up images of our television counterparts, but we do utilize multiple avenues and approaches to solve patients' problems if we can. Some problems are most certainly easier to solve than others. My vision for this issue was for it to be a review of systemic illnesses that have head and neck manifestations. There are numerous systemic illnesses that pose diagnostic and treatment challenges, for which we may be the first line of detection. Many

systemic illnesses are undergoing revisions in prior treatment regimens as a new understanding of their pathophysiology and new medications and surgical treatments arise. It is my sincere hope that the articles in this issue will provide you with head and neck signs and symptoms and a review of the current medical treatment of some of these disorders.

Sidney L. Bourgeois, Jr., DDS  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
University of Texas Health Science Center  
7703 Floyd Curl Drive, MSC 7908  
San Antonio, TX 78229, USA

E-mail address:  
[bourgeois@uthscsa.edu](mailto:bourgeois@uthscsa.edu)