

IBRAHIM H. ABU TAHUN



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DDS, PhD Endodontics Department of Conservative Dentistry, The University of Jordan Dr. Ibrahim H. Abu Tahun is Associate Professor of Endodontics, Department of Conservative Dentistry, School of Dentistry, The University of Jordan. He is a 1982 graduate of University of Athens, Greece and received his PhD in endodontics at the Department of Endodontics at the same university in 1987. Dr. Tahun served in many capacities, such as founding president of the Jordanian Endodontic Society, founding president, Pan Arab Endodontic Society and President of Asia Pacific Endodontic Confederation and currently Chairman of the Educational Committee of APEC. As an active member of several organizations, Dr. Abu Tahun has received honors & appreciations and awarded the "International Globe Award" in Endodontics. He also served as Chairman of Higher Education Committee of the Jordan Medical Council, Chairman of the Scientific Committee and Chairman of Planning and Training committee of the Jordanian Board in Endodontics. Currently, Dr. Tahun is Honorary Diplomat of Indian Board of Endodontics. He is Editorial Board Member of several International Dental & Endodontic Journals and acted as external examiner, cognate and reviewer of (M.Sc. thesis), reviewer of several articles and published a number of scientific articles in elite international endodontic journals. Dr. Tahun has also lectured extensively within Jordan and worldwide as invited and guest speaker and has presented a large number of hands-on courses in the field of root canal treatment.

DISEASED OR DAMAGED PULP: ONE MORE CARD TO PLAY

How to treat pulpal damage and repair the tooth is a very long discussion. Recent research shows that the pulp-dentin complex is more resilient to significant microbial attacks than previously thought. There is a reasonable biological argument to carry out biologically based procedures as alternative treatment in mature permanent teeth with symptomatic irreversible pulpitis, pulp exposures or even early periapical involvement. This biological shift is an even bigger paradigm shift than moving from just old to new. A recent positive development in pulpal diagnosis and management of the inflamed pulp indicates that there is always vital pulp tissue that has the potential to heal if it is managed correctly. Originally, pulp regenerative procedures and stimulation of the wound healing process appear to promote a guided endodontic repair process. Very recently, regenerative endodontic therapy has been employed to treat mature permanent teeth with necrotic pulps and apical periodontitis indicating that even when diseased or damaged: the tooth has one more card to play. We have reached such an amazing success rate that we are obliged to consider the success rate of the alternative solution versus the classical endodontic approach, even if it means having no pulp inside.