For most, the above-mentioned parties immediately come to mind when thinking about a team approach to dentistry. But what about lab technicians? In many publications, the lab technicians are not even mentioned, although they play an integral role in the clinical outcome of all types of indirect restorations, such as inlays, onlays, veneers, crowns, and fixed partial dentures. Their knowledge of the materials and their manual skills are a key factor in the clinical success of these restorations. Why then are they not always considered official team members? Does the importance and esteem assigned to this profession vary amongst different countries worldwide? It’s up to you, dear reader, to answer this question!

In the meantime, The European Journal of Esthetic Dentistry expresses its appreciation of the contributions provided by lab technicians to our daily practices. In the spirit of that support, this issue includes four articles authored by lab technicians.