

PRACTICELIFE



Why am I doing this again?

Nilesh R Parmar updates us on how his MBA is coming along and questions why he is doing it in the first place

First of all, you may remember the Harvard quantitative methods online course I had to do? Well, I passed! Small victory for me (as I punch the air).

With every degree I have done, there has always been a 'why?' moment. This is usually before the exams, sitting in my study longingly looking out of the window at the summer weather (exams are always in the summer, it's just cruel), watching everyone outside enjoying themselves while I drown in a mountain of textbooks and paperwork.

Why am I bothering, what difference is this all going to make in the long run?

It's not so much the destination with this degree, it's the journey

Aim to succeed

Well, in order to succeed, you really need to put your heart and soul into it – you need to believe it's going to make a difference – otherwise mentally you are destined to fail.

In my eyes, doing this degree is going to give me a back-up plan, an alternative income stream. I will have the tools to hand to make a living, not just by drilling teeth, but by doing something completely different.

I used to envy my friends who did a non-vocational degree at university. They would do a math degree and end up working in real estate, or a biology degree and end up in marketing. As dentists we are only trained to do one thing, teeth stuff – that's it!

Exams looming

So, what have I been up to? Well exams are looming,

and I am rather worried. It's a lot of material to cover. We have coursework due based on social networks in the workplace. At first I thought, what a load of nonsense, but after looking at the data we collected and using social models to analyse and interpret the data, it's actually quite fascinating. I think this stuff could be applied to... wait for it... dental practices. So it is relevant after all.

My course group are a very hard working bunch, we are definitely dedicated to the cause, and through our Whatsapp group we are encouraging and supporting each other as best we can.

I am beginning to feel that it's not so much the destination with this degree, it's the journey, and how it is slowly changing the way my thought processes work. **||**



Dr Nilesh R Parmar BDS (Lond) MSc (ProsthDent) MSc (ImpDent) Certificate Ortho. Nilesh has a masters degree in prosthetic dentistry from the Eastman Dental Institute and a masters degree in clinical implantology from King's College London. He is one of the few dentists in the UK to have a degree from all three London dental schools and has recently obtained

his certificate in orthodontics from Warwick University. His main area of interest is in dental implants and Cerec CAD/CAM technology. Nilesh was recently voted 18th in the 2014 Dentistry Top 50.

Currently studying for his MBA, at Imperial College, London, Nilesh runs a successful seven-surgery practice close to London and is a visiting implant dentist to two central London practices.

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