Editorial



Recipients of the 1992 Clinical Research Award: Dr Marjorie K. Jeffcoat and Dr Michael S. Reddy.

Annual Award for Clinical Research in Periodontology

The 1992 Annual Award for Clinical Research in Periodontology was presented to Dr Marjorie K. Jeffcoat and Dr Michael S. Reddy at the Annual Session of the American Academy of Periodontology in Orlando, Florida, November 18 to 21, 1992. Drs Jeffcoat and Reddy received the award for their paper, "Progression of probing attachment loss in adult periodontitis," published in the *Journal of Periodontology* (March 1991).

A single prize of \$3,000 is provided annually for the best paper of direct clinical relevance and application published in a refereed journal. The entries are judged by the Research Committee of the American Academy of Periodontology. The award is supported by Quintessence Publishing Co, Inc, publishers of *The International Journal of Periodontics & Restorative Dentistry*.

Drs Jeffcoat and Reddy monitored 30 patients with adult periodontitis for 6 months by means of an automated periodontal probe to determine the prevalence of active sites and the overall pattern of disease progression in active sites. The prevalence of activity was dependent on the threshold for probing attachment loss used. When 0.4 mm of attachment was used as the threshold, the prevalence of disease activity was 29% of active sites. Of those active sites, 76% lost probing attachment consistent with a continuous model of disease progression. A small subset of sites demonstrated bursts of activity or exacerbations and remissions of disease activity.