

Obituary



Professor Jens J. Pindborg

The recent untimely demise of Jens Pindborg, Emeritus Professor of Oral Pathology, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, has been a shock to his many friends around the world and a great loss to oral medicine and pathology. Few could not have known or heard of Jens.

Jens Pindborg made a mark in oral medicine and pathology which must be hard to equal, especially in the fields of tumours and HIV infection. During his career he published more than 400 papers—often seminal papers on particular topics—and 20 books. For many years, he edited the *Journal of Oral Pathology and Medicine* but also acted in an Editorial capacity on a wide range of journals including *Community Dentistry* and *Oral Epidemiology*, *Danish Dental Journal*, the *International Journal of Oral Surgery*, the *Journal of Dental Research* and *Oral Oncology*.

He lectured frequently and in very many places across the world and gave many eponymous lectures, receiving honorary doctorates from several universities in Scandinavia and Europe. His considerable expertise in his fields was also recognised by his involvement in a number of international and national committees, often as chairperson, and by invitations as visiting professor to universities in many areas of the world. He was especially active in helping those in developing countries and worked closely with the World Health Organisation and European bodies helping formulate many authoritative documents such as for the recent advice for the Europe against cancer programme [1].

However, many of his friends and colleagues will remember Jens not simply as a father of oral medicine and pathology, and fountain of knowledge and wisdom, but as a truly philanthropic and genuinely wonderful person. His enthusiasm for his specialty and for travel seemed to have had no bounds and a huge collection of postcards sent from many parts of the globe testifies to the extent of his movements.

Professor Jens J. Pindborg will be missed by many but never forgotten. His name lives on, not only forever attached to pathological entities he described such as the Pindborg tumour, and in his books and foundation papers in the specialities, but in the many of us who benefited from his wisdom and friendship. If ever there were a gold standard in oral medicine and pathology—it was Jens Pindborg.

Crispian Scully

1. Boyle P, Veronesi Y, Tubiana M, Alexander FE, Calais da Silva F, Denis LJ, Freire JM, Hakama M, Hirsch A, Kroes R, La Vecchia C, Maisonneuve P, Martin-Moreno JM, Newton-Bishop J, Pindborg JJ, Saracci R, Scully C, Standaert B, Storm H, Blanco S, Malbois R, Bleehen N, Dicato M, Plesnicar S. European School of Oncology Advisory Report to the European Commission for the "Europe Against Cancer Programme" European Code Against Cancer. *Eur J Cancer* 1995, 31, 1395–1405.