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Prof. Antoon DE LAAT graduated as dentist in 1980 at the Catholic University of Leuven, (Belgium). For some years, he combined a private practice with postgraduate training in periodontology and with research in oral physiology.

In 1984 he returned to University, where he finalised his thesis on masseteric reflexes, occlusion and temporomandibular joint dysfunction. This thesis led to the GHO degree in 1985.

Since 1986 he is responsible for the Clinic for Temporomandibular Disorders (Dept. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery) at the School of Dentistry in Leuven. He deals with temporomandibular disorders and orofacial pain on a full-time basis.

Since 1990, he is charged with teaching Oral Physiology. Currently he is full Professor at the School of Dentistry, Catholic University of Leuven and Assistant-Chair, Dept. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, University Hospitals, KU Leuven.

His scientific work led to over 160 papers and abstracts. He lectured all over Europe, North and South-America, the Middle and Far East.

For 15 years, Prof. De Laat was Associate Editor of the Journal of Orofacial Pain. He also served as Associate Editor for the European Journal of Oral Sciences and the European Journal of Pain. Currently, he still serves Douleur et Analgésie, Prosthodontics Research and Practice and the Leuven Dental Journal.

He is Past-President of the IADR/Neuroscience group, of the European Academy of Craniomandibular Disorders, the Belgian Pain Society, and was founding Chair of the Special Interest Group on Orofacial Pain of the IASP.

At this moment he chairs the IASP Research Committee, is member of the IASP-council, Board member of the Society of Oral Physiology and President of the Leuven Dental Alumni Society. His research interests focus on trigeminal neurophysiology, jaw reflexes, and orofacial pain.