Not a round anniversary and yet a significant milestone: The 45th Annual International Congress organised at the beginning of October by the DGZI in Wiesbaden, Germany, marked the 45th year of Europe’s oldest implantological expert association. With 4,000 members in Germany and 12,000 members worldwide, the DGZI can boast success at home as well as abroad.

The comprehensive review highlighted in particular the association’s close cooperation with the dental technology sector, a fact the DGZI is particularly proud of. Those special ties were also reflected in this year’s congress theme entitled “Dental Technology and Implantology—Interface to Success” and culminated in the first-time awarding of the newly established qualification “Dental Technology and Implantology.” This year’s award went to Mr Oliver Beckmann, a dental technician from Freudenberg, Germany.

At the press conference in Wiesbaden, Prof. Dr Herbert Deppe (TU München), DGZI President and head of board, recounted the society’s many and varied activities of the last decades. A key point of the presentation was the association’s constant focus on practical applications. “As a society strongly focusing on the profession’s practical aspects, the DGZI considers itself to be a representative of practicing implantologists and dentists working in the field of implantology and as such it offers customised, practice-orientated concepts.”

“Our members profit from a wealth of international experience”

45th Annual International Congress of the DGZI

Source DGZI
various training programmes have always reflected the newest scientific findings and these have been provided for the benefits of its members who include dental technicians as well as highly engaged dentists. Against this backdrop, Prof. Deppe is convinced: “Our members profit from the wealth of scientific experience our association is keen and able to provide as Europe’s oldest association of dental implantology.”

However, having reached the 45th anniversary does not mean the DGZI will stand still: it has completely revised its curriculum and has included since 2014 E-learning modules as well as theoretical and practical training programs. Due to those improvements the membership has doubled. The successfully completed curriculum can also serve as a foundation for a subsequent master study programme (MSc). The DGZI’s education programme offers information about all the activities available regarding dental and, in particular, implantological training opportunities. The programme is yearly updated in print and online and also available in the English language. Recognised by the consensus conference, the qualification “Implantology” is awarded by the DGZI after certain requirements have been fulfilled and the curriculum completed. Additionally, as Prof. Deppe pointed out, the DGZI also pays great attention to the importance of individual support and advice and offers special rates for students, young professionals and assistants.

Furthermore, the society’s strengths include the publication of its specialised journals. Since its complete relaunch earlier in 2015, “Implantology Journal” is the most circulated specialist implantology journal in the German-speaking market. With ten editions a year and a circulation of 15,000 copies, it also includes CME articles and webinars. In addition, the international magazine “implants” is published four times a year and presents practice-related articles in the English language.

As scientific head and Vice President of the DGZI, Prof. (CAI) Dr Roland Hille introduced the particularities of this year’s congress. Dentists from more than ten different nations and three continents visited the Wiesbaden venue, most of them from partner societies in Japan, Georgia and Egypt. More than 30 speeches, 40 speakers and seven workshops comprised the programme of the two congress days. Forty companies presented their products at the dental exhibition. The focal point of this year’s event, the close cooperation between implantologists and dental technicians, was illustrated by...
events

many joint interdisciplinary speeches. “The symbiosis between dental diagnostics and therapy on the one hand and the creativity of dental technicians on the other, combined with enhanced techniques, creates success stories with regard to dental prostheses”, states Prof. Hille. “In a nutshell, science fiction meets reality, and both of them have already entered the realm of our dental practices. Virtual digital technologies had only been an option in the past but have now become a fixed aspect of dental treatments in the present.” Accordingly, the traditional discussion panel CONTROVERSIAL DGZI invited dentists and dental technicians to present their respective rehabilitation approaches and problem-solving techniques under the headline “The edentulous upper jaw—How can the best possible solution be achieved”.

As the new DGZI qualification “Dental Technology and Implantology” was awarded for the first time this year, Prof. Hille emphasised that dental technicians have played “a major role in the success story of implantology in Germany” while, more than ever before, they have to demonstrate and highlight their skills, qualifications and areas of expertise as competition grows. In cooperation with the training centre FUNDAMENTAL, DGZI fulfils this demand with its new quality label. Prof. Hille is convinced that graduates will excel at work due to their new, future-oriented qualifications. In order to achieve this qualification, graduates have to have gained a minimum of three years of experience in the field of implant prosthetics, including at least 150 prosthetic restorations of implants or 70 implant cases. Furthermore, an additional twelve cases differing in their respective indication must be accounted for. Curricula in implant prosthetics of all German dental societies are acknowledged. Moreover, Prof. Hille announced the new DGZI “Implant Dentistry Award” 2016, which carries a 10,000 Euro endowment.

As if taking the audience on a short road trip around the world, DGZI Vice President Prof. (CAI) Dr Rolf Vollmer expounded upon the society’s various international relations and activities. In his position as visiting professor of the Cairo University (2008), he has built many international ties and relationships over the years and has also formed a concise European network with countries such as Croatia, Ireland or Georgia. Among the DGZI’s most renowned partners are the US-based Academy of Osseointegration and the American Academy of Implant Dentistry. Moreover, DGZI has held speeches, congresses and workshops in Mexico and Japan, as well as the Middle East with countries such as Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon, Saudi-Arabia, Kuwait, Pakistan and Australia.
Membership Application Form

I hereby to apply for membership of the DGZI – German Association of Dental Implantology (Deutschen Gesellschaft für Zahnärztliche Implantologie e.V.).

Please send this form via FAX to +49 211 16970-66.

Do you have experience in implantology? (mandatory)
○ Yes ○ No

I hereby agree to have my personal data processed for all purposes of the DGZI.

○ Full membership (outside Germany) ○ Assistant doctors (outside Germany) ○ Students/auxiliaries (outside Germany)
⇒ 125 Euro p.a. ⇒ 60 Euro p.a. ⇒ 60 Euro p.a.

I have transferred the annual fee to the DGZI bank account c/o Dr Rolf Vollmer:
IBAN: DE33 5735 1030 0050 0304 36 | KSK Altenkirchen | SWIFT/BIC: MALADE51AKI

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Please complete this application form in block letters.

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Zahnärztliche Implantologie e.V.
Central Office: Paulusstraße 1, 40237 Düsseldorf, Germany
Phone: +49 211 16970-77 | FAX: +49 211 16970-66 | office@dgzi-info.de | www.dgzi.de
More than 2,500 participants attended the 24th EAO Annual Congress at Stockholm, Sweden, and were given an update on the state-of-the-art of clinical osseointegration by a wide range of symposia, workshops and poster presentations. This year’s congress focused on the work of late Prof. Per-Ingvar Brånemark as well as other pioneers of dental implantology. The Swedish doctor and scientist was renowned for paving the way of modern implantology with his ground-breaking discovery of the integration of artificial materials such as titanium in human bone tissue.

For this reason, a special session on the first congress day was dedicated to the topic “50 Years of Clinical Osseointegration.” “Our daily working routine is based on 50 years of experience with osseointegrated implants”, states Prof. Björn Klinge, scientific leader of the congress committee. EAO has always been aiming at processing and communicating scientific data for practice-oriented implant therapy. That is why its organisers have asked more than 50 experts from Sweden and abroad to present their works and discuss the latest scientific findings and clinical concepts in implantology. In addition, new procedures and techniques were introduced at various parallel symposia, which were supported by the leading dental companies. The most up-to-date products, including new implants and solutions for an improved implant treatment, also formed a major focal point of the event. All in all, almost 100 dental companies took part in the Stockholm congress.
Pioneers of modern implantology

None other than Prof. emeritus Tomas Albrektsson, long-time partner of Per-Ingvar Brånemark, talked about the Swedish implant pioneer’s achievements. Already in 1969, Brånemark introduced his first publication on oral implantology.

However, his discovery of the osseous integration of titanium implants was dismissed to be a mere myth. Only as special cutting techniques were developed, Brånemark’s osseointegration was proved irrefutably. Just like all other major scientific achievements, oral implantology was established by leading researchers independently from and unknowingly from another.

In this regard, Prof. Daniel Buser explained the Schroeder Concept, which was named after Prof. André Schroeder from Switzerland. Schroeder did intensive research on implant materials in the late 1960s and developed hollow cylinder implants as well as solid screws with a plasma-coated titanium surface (TPS) in close cooperation with Dr. Fritz Straumann. Schroeder and his colleagues were the first research team to present implants which were fully anchored in non-decalcified bone sections. Among others, his work lead to the foundation of the International Team for Implantology (ITI) in 1980.

The third pioneer in implantology was acknowledged by Prof. Jörg Meyle: The German implantologist Prof. Willi Schulte established the Schulte Concept, which describes the immediate implantation of ceramic, polycrystalline aluminium oxide stepped-cylinder implants (Tübingen Implant). He was able to prove that immediate implantation to the extraction socket can be a successful and durable implant therapy.

EAO education programme for students

In addition to its activities regarding the annual congress, the EAO announced the launch of its prestigious and highly anticipated EAO Education Programme during its 24th annual meeting. The programme launches in spring 2016 and offers students the chance to participate in live learning events taught by world-class implantology experts at some of Europe’s most renowned universities, along with a unique online learning platform (the EAO Classroom).

The EAO has a long-standing commitment to dental education. Its aim is to improve the quality of patient care by bridging the gap between science and clinical practice. In 2010, the EAO launched its Certificate in Implant-based Therapy, which was the first and only Europe-wide standardised assessment of skills and expertise within implant-based therapy. The new Education Programme will complement the Certification Programme and provide an additional service to EAO members and the wider dental community.

The programme consists of six modules at three levels (straightforward, advanced and complex). Each module includes a three-day on-site training element, which combines hands-on sessions, lectures, practical exercises and live surgery. The breadth of training modules is much wider than what is offered by existing courses, and will enable candidates to gain the range of knowledge required to practice at the highest level of implant dentistry.

Attendees at the EAO congress in Stockholm: Interviews with the organiser of the Education Programme are available. Please contact oliver@publishingbureau.co.uk or alexshedlock@publishingbureau.co.uk to organise an interview.

*The six centres where live learning events will take place are: University Hospital, Malmö, Faculty of Odontology; University Medical Center of Groningen, Dept. Oral Maxillofacial Surgery; University of Zurich, Clinic for Fixed and Removable Prosthodontics and the Unit for Oral Implantology; University Hospital Düsseldorf, Dept. Oral Surgery; Complutense University of Madrid, Department of Stomatology III; Lisbon University, School of Dental Medicine.