Welcome to the 91st EOS congress in Venice

Ortho specialists from around the globe gather for annual meeting in Italy

The EOS congress is targeted at dental professionals interested in orthodontics, including experts, trainees, and junior and senior specialists. As part of the programme, 11 keynote speakers and, in contrast to the last two years, the employment of a larger number of interesting topics. These topics include early and late orthodontic treatment, scientifically based clinical decisions and justifications for orthodontic treatment, and integrated orthodontic care. Furthermore, experts will discuss whether there is still a need for extractions in orthodontics.

Through various pre-congress and postgraduate courses on orthodontic treatment and practice, participants will have the opportunity to acquire and deepen their knowledge in the field, and to discuss their clinical experiences with colleagues from other countries. For example, the pre-congress course titled “Treatment Mechanics” will provide the necessary background information regarding the clinical use of current skeletal anchorage devices, including orthodontic implants, mini-plates, and mini screws/implants, which can be utilised to support orthodontic treatment of Class II malocclusions. It also aims to present and discuss the basic principles, benefits and drawbacks of these modalities, as well as to emphasise the scientific evidence available regarding their clinical efficacy in Class II treatment.

Over the past decades, the EOS congress has taken place in various European countries and been held in Italy five times. This year, the congress will take place at the Venice Convention centre, which is situated on the island of Lido. The centre is composed of the Palazzo del Cinema, Palazzo del Casino and Palagiole, two historic buildings and a large indoor arena that can seat up to 4,000 people.

In addition, new products and technologies will be presented at the congress exhibition. At the 2014 congress in Warsaw in Poland, more than 80 exhibitors showcased their innovations.

On 14 June, at 5 p.m., the congress and the trade exhibition will be officially opened at the Palazzo delle Arti, a nineteenth-century Austrian fortress. The ceremony is included for all registered participants and registered accompanying guests. The gala dinner on the evening of 17 June will take place at the Scuola Grande di San Giovanni Evangelista, a confessional building that is usually not open to the public.

Alongside the scientific programme, participants will be offered a wide range of leisure activities, including various city tours. As the island of Lido is home to the famous annual Venice Film Festival, a special tour on 17 June, for instance, will take attendees to iconic places. They will see the church of San Barnaba, where Indiana Jones found catacombs, rats and dead crusaders under the floor and later emerged from a manhole in the Campo dei Santi Giovanni e Paolo; the famous film L’Ultimo Cristo; the Campiello Barbaro; and the Campiello del Ghetto, where Woody Allen kissed Julia Roberts in Everyone Says I Love You; and Ca’ Manzoni, which supplied the traditional Venetian carnival masks for Stanley Kubrick’s Eyes Wide Shut.

The congress in Venice is open to both EOS members and non-members. More information can be found at www.eos2015.org.
EOS congress 2015: Driving orthodontic professionals to improve knowledge in their field

An interview with Prof. Antonio Maria Miotti, chair of EOS Venice 2015

For its 91st annual congress, the European Orthodontic Society (EOS) returns to Italy for the sixth time. Prof. Miotti, why was Venice chosen as this year’s location, and what does this choice mean to you?

Venice was chosen by my sister Francesca Ada Miotti, professor and head of the Department of Orthodontics at the University of Padua, when she was elected as president of the 2015 EOS congress. Unfortunately, she died in 2013 and I was then chosen to complete her work—although I am a maxillofacial surgeon—as I have contributed to her work. Venice is my sister’s choice, but also because my father organised a memorable EOS congress as president in Venice in 1992.

The choice of Venice really means a great deal to me, apart from my being born in the Venetian region, first of all because it was my sister’s choice and the congress will be a tribute to her, but also because my father organised a memorable EOS congress as president in Venice in 1992.

The main objective of the EOS is to advance all aspects of orthodontics and its relations with the collateral arts and sciences for public benefit. How important is the annual congress in achieving this overall aim?

The annual EOS congress is one of the main opportunities for orthodontists from all around the world to meet and discuss relevant themes, keep up to date, and get to know or become friends with colleagues from faraway countries. The benefit for the public is obvious, as orthodontic knowledge and new discoveries or results become widespread.

What would you describe as the main focus of the 91st congress, and what topics will be discussed?

Main topics are early or late treatment in orthodontics; the question of whether there is still a need for extractions in orthodontics; scientifically based clinical decisions and justifications for orthodontic treatment; and integrated orthodontic care.

The last two topics are really relevant for public and community health care in any national or regional health system. The first one is particularly useful to decide what kind of treatment should be delivered and when, for example during growth or at the end of it. The second aims to define collaborative paths between different specialties, such as oral and maxillofacial surgery, paediatrics, ENT surgery, and so on.

Aside from the scientific programme, what can participants look forward to in Venice?

Venice does not need any introduction as it is one of the cities to visit in the world. The whole lagoon is full of art and history, and a few days will certainly not be enough, but could be a starting point for another visit.

The social programme of the congress is very rich, starting with the opening reception at the grand Palazzo del Cinema, each year home to the annual Venice Film Festival, followed by a buffet supper around the exhibitors’ stands at the Palazzo del Casino, built in the 1930s.

There will also be the President’s Reception at the beautiful Hotel Excelsior with terraces overlooking the world-renowned Lido di Venezia beach. The impressive hotel was built in the early 1900s and appeared in famous films.

The gala dinner will be held at the Scuola Grande di San Giovanni Evangelista, a wonderful palace built in the 13th century containing precious paintings of Jacopo Palma il Giovane, Giovanni Battista Tiepolo and Jacopo Tintoretto.

Could you please describe the current situation regarding orthodontics in Europe? Which factors have had the most influence over the past several years?

Orthodontics in Europe is a well-defined specialty of dental surgery. In most countries, university postgraduate courses have been developed to improve professional knowledge, ranging from true specialisation degrees to shorter master’s degrees. Also many national societies give their support in organising courses and national congresses.

The development of new materials and technologies over the past several years has greatly improved and to some extent shortened orthodontic treatments. Equally important are studies on growth and tooth movement that are coming out with new findings. Congresses like EOS 2015 in Venice are an effective way to focus and share knowledge in this field from all points of view, epidemiological, experimental, clinical, etc.

One of the topics of the congress, scientifically based clinical decisions and justifications for orthodontic treatment, is a real key issue, as in any other dental or medical surgical subject nowadays. Its ethical and financial implications are evident.

How does the EOS address these trends?

The EOS is one of the oldest dental and medical associations; as it was founded back in 1907 and since then has always driven orthodontic professionals to improve knowledge in their field.

The aim of the EOS is to advance all aspects of orthodontics for public benefit. Apart from organising a major congress each year in a different European nation, with up to 2,000 or more participants, the EOS organises courses and gives a range of important grants and awards, supporting research and fellowships to allow junior researchers to visit research departments. By doing this, the EOS directly influences the development of orthodontics in Europe, if not all over the world.

Thank you very much.

Prof. Antonio Maria Miotti has a degree in medicine and surgery from the University of Padua in Italy and specialised in dental surgery at the same university. He was trained in orthodontics at the University of London and the University of Padua, and is also specialised in maxillofacial surgery at the University of Milan in Italy.

For the last 23 years, Miotti has been head of the Department of Maxillofacial Surgery "Center for Diagnosis and Treatment of Skeletally Based Malocclusions" at the regional university hospital of Udine in Italy. He has always been involved and committed in orthodontics and has taken the position of Clinical Professor at the Department of Orthodontics of the University of Padua for more than 20 years. He is also the author of more than 200 scientific papers and more than 300 contributions to national and international meetings.
Doctors are taught to diagnose and treat health problems. Within these margins, most clinicians fulfill this role with their patients very successfully. However, the traditional role of the doctor is carried out within a broader, historical, political and social context where the diagnosis and treatment of system failures are as important as the clinical interactions with individual patients. A doctor’s ability to improve health outcomes in an increasingly complex milieu will always be challenged. Therefore, the doctor must be willing to understand and influence this wider framework. Such understanding can be achieved by engaging in the emerging science of quality improvement, where the approach to improve quality and assess this attitude has brought us, in spite of contradictions and paradoxes.

A paradox is a statement that apparently contradicts itself and yet might be true. Most logical paradoxes are known to be invalid arguments, but are still valuable in promoting critical thinking. More commonly, the word paradox often refers to statements that are unexpected or ironic, such as “the paradox that standing is more tiring than walking.”

Examples of a paradoxical effect or reaction might be when: (1) people with unrelenting or ominous disabilities report experiencing good or excellent quality of life, but to many outside observers, these individuals seem to live an undesirable daily existence; (2) the effects of a certain drug are opposite to what is normally expected, such as allergy or even anaphylaxis; (3) pain-relief medication causes increased rather than decreased pain; (4) a surgical procedure produces a scar, such as a keloid rather than perfect incision closure; and (5) an orthodontist expects his or her treatment to produce a certain reaction or tooth movement, but the resultant outcome is contrary to what is expected, for example relapse or resorption.

Paradoxical effects are the aberrant, abnormal consequences of treatment rather than the normal, expected results, or rather the paradoxes of quality of treatment. They are the “scars” of medicine, dentistry and orthodontics. Can they be predicted? Does it mean that the treatment was improper? Sometimes yes, but most times no. It is up to the clinician to diagnose properly and even then, poor results can occur in spite of good judgment, proper treatment and excellent diagnosis. Unfortunately, our profession is not an exact science, which is not an excuse, but a fact!

Editorial Note: This text was first published in the 01/2015 issue of the Ortho Tribune US Edition.
According to Finnish researchers, the number of dental panoramic tomographs (DPTs) and lateral cephalometric radiographs (LCRs) outweighs other radiographic examinations in 7- to 12-year-olds in Finland. However, only little information about the quality of orthodontic radiography is available today. Therefore, researchers at the University of Helsinki assessed data of 250 patients in this age group and found that orthodontic radiography may not completely fulfill the criteria of good practice.

The analysis showed that 241 (96 per cent) of the children had undergone DPTs and 118 (47 per cent) LCRs. In 109 of the cases (44 per cent), both procedures had been performed.

About 95 per cent of the DPTs were ordered for orthodontic reasons; however, only 40 per cent of them were ordered by orthodontists and 60 per cent by general practitioners. All LCRs were ordered for orthodontic reasons, 64 per cent of which by orthodontists and the rest by general practitioners. The researchers found that 73 per cent of the referrals for LCRs were adequate.

With regard to the quality of radiographic practice, the researchers noted that about one-fourth of the DPTs and one-fifth of the LCRs lacked adequate referral. Overall, orthodontists were more often responsible for inadequate referrals than were general practitioners. This might be due to a lack of knowledge regarding the role and importance of the referral process, the researchers suggested. In addition, LCRs ordered by orthodontists lacked adequate referral more often than did DPTs, they stated.

The study team also reported that LCRs ordered by orthodontists were interpreted and analysed more frequently than those ordered by general practitioners. Notably, about one-third of the patients who underwent LCRs did not have any results of cephalometric analysis in their files. Another 31 per cent lacked both interpretation and cephalometric analysis. In addition, 20 per cent of the DPTs had not been interpreted at all.

In 2008, DPTs accounted for 27 per cent and LCRs for 16 per cent of extraoral radiographic examinations of 7- to 12-year-olds. Despite these considerable numbers, Finland has no general national guidelines for ordering orthodontic radiography. In conclusion, however, the researchers said that radiographic practice in the current study was largely in line with international recommendations, as the number of repeated exposures for technical reasons or unjustified follow-up radiographs was relatively low. Nevertheless, they identified a clear need for improvement in the quality of orthodontic radiography and the adequacy of referrals and interpretations in particular.

Data for the study was obtained from the oral health care department of Helsinki, the largest city in Finland and the only public section that offers dental care free of charge, including orthodontic treatment, to citizens under the age of 18.

The study, titled "Quality assessment of orthodontic radiography in children", was published online on 14 May in the European Journal of Orthodontics ahead of print.
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2nd October 2015

Madrid - Spain
7th November 2015

Paris - France
6th December 2015

Frankfurt - Germany
11th - 12th December 2015

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Pre-orthodontic options for 21st-century parents

By Daniel Elliott, Myofunctional Research

As a matter of routine, when accepting an orthodontic treatment plan, parents are required to acknowledge the risk that their children’s teeth could be damaged during treatment. At best, unless they commit to permanent use of a retainer, patients can expect almost definite relapse and worst-case scenarios may include enamel damage, root resorption or in the case of corrective jaw surgery, painful lifelong complications.

Unfortunately, though, while parents are becoming more aware of the risks and limitations of traditional orthodontics and the generating impetus toward more stable, less invasive treatments, they are often not being informed of all the alternative options that are available.

Despite this increased recognition of the shortcomings of traditional orthodontic treatments and the escalating demand for contemporary options, the causes of malocclusion remain somewhat hidden from parents. In order to make an informed decision regarding their children’s oral health and to decide which treatment is the most suitable, these causes of malocclusion must be highlighted.

Three in four 21st-century children will experience malocclusion and parents, as well as the dental professionals advising them, have traditionally attributed this to hereditary factors. However, research shows that rather than genetic, the aetiology of malocclusion is predominately environmental.

The most recent evidence, which is often not presented to parents during orthodontic consultations, reveals that the majority of malocclusions are caused by incorrect jaw development.

This incorrect development restricts the space that is available for erupting teeth and prevents them from growing into their ideal natural position. For the best part of the last century, the easiest fix for this problem has been to extract teeth into underdeveloped jaws. This incorrect development restricts the space that is available for erupting teeth and prevents them from growing into their ideal natural position.

An increasing number of dentists prefer to avoid this problem and rely on alternative solutions which address these causes, rather than just correcting the symptoms of malocclusion.

These practitioners recognise that in addition to environmental factors (such as the modern diet), mechanical forces, become possible. Additionally, these preventive, pre-orthodontic treatments can be undertaken and completed much sooner than, or even in conjunction with, braces if necessary.

As a result of improved awareness regarding their children’s oral health care, 21st-century parents have become increasingly enthusiastic about less invasive, more preventive treatment methods. Legally these parents should be presented with all the treatment options that are available.

Once these myofunctional causes of malocclusion have been identified, the potential for natural growth is unlocked and myofunctional treatment methods, which can produce more stable results without relying on heavy mechanical forces, become possible.

AD

“Three in four 21st-century children will experience malocclusion...”

Unfortunately, for countless orthodontic patients, these mechanical treatments are focused on the symptoms of malocclusion, but fail to address the underlying causes of the condition, which is why relapse is the most predictable outcome.

An increasing number of dental professionals have accepted the necessity for new treatment methods that would address the causes, rather than just correcting the symptoms, of malocclusion.

These practitioners recognise that in addition to environmental factors (such as the modern diet) inhibited jaw development is being caused by poor myofunctional habits, including thumb sucking, reverse swallowing and mouth breathing.
From Venice to London
World Federation of Orthodontists holds next big orthodontic congress at the River Thames

The International Orthodontic Congress (IOC) is held once every five years and offers up to 10,000 orthodontists and allied professionals a unique platform to meet, network and exchange knowledge and ideas with their colleagues and peers from across the globe.

The British Orthodontic Society, the two largest dental specialist groups in the UK with over 4,800 members collectively, will be hosting the eighth edition of the congress in London, from 27 to 30 September. The event will be officially opened at 1 p.m. on 27 September at the ExCeL London Exhibition and Congress Centre. Situated in a stunning waterfront location, the centre is located in the heart of London’s Royal Docks, with easy access to central London. The venue is part of a 100 acre site which includes three on-site aboveground rail stations and easy access to the underground network and London City Airport.

In order to cater for both orthodontists and other dental health professionals, such as dental technicians, hygienists, dental attendants and office staff, the WFO will be offering two scientific programmes that will run in parallel. In addition to these programmes, a World Village Day will take place, which will comprise of seven parallel, full-day programmes. To date, 19 distinguished speakers have already confirmed their participation.

The congress lectures and presentations will be held in English, however, simultaneous translation will be provided for some sessions. Alongside the scientific programme, attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about new products and technological developments at the adjoining exhibition that will run for the duration of the congress.

In addition, during the course of the congress, several social events are planned for the evenings, including an international reception at the famous Madame Tussauds wax museum and a gala dinner at the Old Billingsgate, an extraordinary and unique venue that is situated in a prime position on the River Thames which was once the world’s largest fish market. Tickets for these events can be purchased upon registration.

According to the WFO, one of the reasons the congress is taking place in London is because of the city’s heritage and its attractions on offer. As a city of history and culture, delegates will have numerous opportunities to enjoy many of the sights, including castles and palaces, historical buildings and monuments, theatres and opera houses and other well known places that were described by famous authors, such as William Shakespeare and Charles Dickens.

Online registration for the event is open until 17 September 2015 at www.wfo2015london.org but delegates can also register on-site at the registration desk on 27 September. The WFO was formed at the 4th IOC in San Francisco, California, in the USA by 69 organisations from 62 countries on 15 May 1995. Today, it consists of 106 organisations from 106 countries and over 6,800 orthodontists have become WFO fellows. The main aim of the organisation is to advance the art and science of orthodontics throughout the world.

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The floor plan and exhibitors list are subject to change. Last update was 28 May, 2015.
The Venice Biennale was founded in 1895 and has become one of the most famous and prestigious cultural festivals in the world. Occurring every two years, the event aims to promote new contemporary art trends. As part of the 2015 Biennale, the 56th International Art Exhibition, titled “All The World’s Futures”, opened its doors to the public on 9 May. The exhibition is a unitary itinerary that starts at the Central Pavilion at the Giardini and continues at the Arsenale, with 136 artists from 53 countries, of whom 89 will be showing their art works for the first time.

Venice Jazz Club Quartet “Blue Note Sound”
Venue: Venice Jazz Club, Ponte dei Pugni 3102, Sestiere di Dorsoduro
Time: Monday, 15 June 9 p.m.
www.venicejazzclub.weebly.com

The Venice Jazz Club (VJC) groups include some of the finest musicians from Venice and other parts of Italy. The VJC quartet (piano, guitar, double bass and drums) is often joined by special guests and plays classic and modern jazz genres, making every night a special event. The band also performs special tributes to legendary musicians and composers like Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, Dave Brubeck and Thelonius Monk. Food, including vegetarian options, will be served before the concert, from 8.00 to 9.00 p.m.

AQUAE Venice 2015
Venue: Marghera
Opening times: Mon.–Tues. 11 a.m.–8 p.m.; Wed.–Sun. 11 a.m.–11 p.m.
www.aquae2015.org

Aquae Venice is a collateral event of the Expo Milano 2015, following the theme “Feeding the World”. The event is probably the largest event ever in the world to focus on food and nutrition. This universal exhibition in Venice is dedicated to the topic of water where it aims to describe, in a simple, experiential, educational and interactive way, how and why water deeply influences our lives. The exhibition also explains the way in which water supply will affect food industries across the world in the following decades.
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