This week, London will be welcoming experts in periodontology and dental implantology from Britain and the continent to the next pan-European meeting of the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP). With preparations finalised in May, dental professionals are invited to learn about the latest trends and developments in both fields over the course of the next three days, the organisation said.

Headed by King’s College London Prof. Francis Hughes, EuroPerio8 is expected to bring together thousands members of the profession at the ExCeL London Exhibition and Convention Centre. Hughes told today earlier that participants can look forward to one of the largest and most successful congresses on periodontology and implant dentistry ever held in Europe.

According to a recent study conducted by Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry in London, periodontitis, particularly in its severe form, remains highly prevalent around the world, with almost every tenth person suffering from the condition. In Britain, at least one in 15 adults are currently affected by the most severe form of periodontal disease, according to National Health Service figures.

Experts will discuss these developments at EuroPerio8, as well as other issues in the field including peri-implant diseases and interrelations between general and dental health. The event will also be a showcase for the most recent product innovations in oral health, which will be presented by up to 80 sponsors, including the UK’s own Dentaid, as well as major international dental companies including MIS, Nobel Biocare or Planmeca. For the first time, Dental Tribune will also publish a daily edition of its congress newspaper today in partnership with the EFP.

**Landmark dental event opens in London today**

**Up to 10,000 dental professionals expected for EuroPerio8**

Professionals are planning to attend the next EuroPerio8 event, which is expected to attract a large number of participants from around the world. The event will take place in London this week, with preparations finalised in May. Dental professionals are invited to learn about the latest trends and developments in both periodontology and implant dentistry.

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Implant solutions provider launches new implant at special event in London

MIS says it is all in the shape

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The design of V3 aims to provide both specialists and general practitioners with optimum flexibility in implant planning and placement for a restorative-driven approach. In particular, the triangular shape of the coronal portion is intended to encourage bone regeneration and to gain greater volume of bone in support of stable surrounding soft tissue for restorations with improved aesthetics. According to Ginat, the neck provides solid anchorage at three points in the crestal zone while forming three compression free gaps at the sides (between the implant and the osteotomy), thus favouring conditions for better osseointegration, such as high primary stability, reduced bone compression and crestal bone resorption. The gaps encourage blot clot formation at the bone-implant interface to promote the initial scaffold-building process for bone growth and allow stable blood clot. This way, V3 provides clinicians with advantages from the start, achieving a greater volume of bone and soft tissue at the onset of implant placement.

A high-performance conical connection implant with platform switching, V3 also features a variable thread and self-tapping capability, micro-rings, a concave inter-thread for maximum bone-implant contact, as well as a flat apex supporting immediate implant engagement. Ginat added that clinicians can enjoy all of these design benefits without having to learn new protocols. Furthermore, a dedicated surgical kit makes procedures especially simple, safe and accurate, resulting in ease of placement for the dentist and shorter recovery time for patients, he explained.

For more information and photographs from the launch event, please visit www.dental-tribune.co.uk.
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European dental markets trend towards group practices and consolidation

Latest market figures released by the Federation of the European Dental Industry (FIDE), in cooperation with the Association of European Dental Dealers (ADDE), last month at the International Dental Show in Cologne, show changes toward a digital dentistry manifesting in overall trends to a more professionalised and faster processing of practices and consolidations throughout dental markets in Europe. The organisation’s 2015 market survey also revealed that the number of European dentists has slightly increased to a total of 276,090 in 2014 compared to 270,045 the year before.

A contrary trend showed in the number of dental offices and dental laboratories. While the numbers of the former remained flat on average, the total figures of labs in Europe has decreased in almost every surveyed country. According to ADDE President Dominique Deschettere, giving the growing numbers of practicing dentists this development either indicates a trend to group practices or consolidations.

While the number of dental technicians has remained steady or slightly decreased in all countries except Hungary, the number of dental hygienists increased in all countries of the survey. This development is especially prominent in the UK, with the number of dental hygienists growing distinctly compared to 2013. As Deschettere has put it, this seems to be a result of the evermore "bending of the laws" in this area.

On the supply channels side, the percentage of direct sales from manufacturers remained steady in most countries, and the share of products purchased via e-mail or internet is constantly, if only slightly, increasing compared to the previous year. Further, the figures indicate that the sales volume of equipment has dropped in 2014, while sales of sundries and consumables remained stable on average. Dental implant sales, however, have increased in the vast majority of countries, and the share of direct sales from manufacturers remained steady in most countries, and the share of products purchased via e-mail or internet is constantly, if only slightly, increasing compared to the previous year.

The annual ADDE/FIDE survey, which is conducted through its national associations since 1998 and represents the interests of more than 960 dental dealer organisations, covers the most relevant topics and trends for the European Dental Industry, such as the number of customers and end users, sales values for the main product categories, the use of computer and e-commerce, sales segments, distribution channels as well as VAT charges and their impact on the market.

Periodontitis linked to heart attacks in kidney disease patients

Over 10 per cent of the adult population suffers from chronic kidney disease (CKD) and those affected often have poor health outcomes owing to an increased incidence of cardiovascular disease compared with the general population. Researchers at Aston University recently found that treating a common gingival condition in CKD patients could significantly reduce their risk of potentially fatal heart disease.

CKD progressively worsens kidney function, raises blood pressure, and can cause progressive vascular damage. The latest research at the university suggests that increased mortality in people with CKD may be linked with chronic inflammatory conditions such as periodontitis, which causes gingival inflammation, loss of the bone that supports the teeth and ultimately tooth loss.

Previous studies have found that more than 85 per cent of people with CKD have inflammatory gingival problems, caused by inadequate removal of dental plaque from between the tooth and gingival margin and made worse by increased immunity and wound healing. Experts have identified that bacteria in the mouth can enter the bloodstream through a poor gingival condition, causing blood cells to malfunction and leading to clotting and narrowing of the arteries.

The implants were analysed using a scanning electron microscope and subjected to qualitative and quantitative elemental analysis. From these, the researchers discovered unexpected particles or organic residue on some of the implants, such as chromium, copper, iron, silicon and tin, and massive organic residue, like plastic material originating from an implant’s low-density polyethylene plastic packaging.

Although, according to the researchers, some manufacturers have made substantial improvements since the first examination in 2008, a recent intermediate study report showed that several implants still exhibit topographical irregularities, organic contaminants and inorganic residue from the manufacturing process.

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There is insufficient knowledge about the effect of metallic particles or organic residue on sterile implants, but impurities are preventable, explained Dr Dirk Duddeck, study author and head of materials research at the Interdisciplinary Policlinic for Oral Surgery and Implantology at the university.

"It is difficult to imagine that those contaminants may have a positive influence on osseointegration, especially in cases with a compromised bone situation," he stated.

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Clean dental implants essential for clinical success

Dental implant surfaces are continuously being improved to achieve better and faster integration with the bone. However, a study being conducted by the University of Cologne, testing some implants’ surfaces still exhibit irregularities and contaminants, and this could have a negative influence on the clinical success of the implant.

The surface of an implant significantly determines the biological response after insertion and, therefore, has a great influence on osseointegration—the successful integration of the implant with the surrounding tissues. Different treatments of the implant material during production not only affect the surface properties of the implant, but may also leave organic or inorganic residue on its surface.

Researchers at the University of Cologne have analysed approximately 100 different implants regarding mechanical precision and surface quality. The study, conducted on behalf of the Quality and Research Committee of the European Association of Dental Implantologists (EIDZ), regularly examines the implants available on the European market.

The first study was launched in 2008 and examined 23 sterile-packaged implants from nine countries. A second study with 57 implants followed in 2012.

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"It is difficult to imagine that those contaminants may have a positive influence on osseointegration, especially in cases with a compromised bone situation," he stated.

However, the majority of the analysed implants showed good results. "A very clean implant in this study was provided by Paltop. The manufacturer uses a multi-stage extensive cleaning process, which was adopted from the semiconductor industry. This cleaning process removes undesirable residue derived from processing, yielding a contamination free surface," Duddeck said.

An intermediate report of the study, titled “Quantitative and Qualitative Assessment of Implant Surfaces by SEM and EIDX,” was published recently in the 1/2015 issue of the European Journal for Dental Implantologists.
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An interview with EFP President Prof. Søren Jepsen, Germany.

next EuroPerio8 will be officially opened at the ExCeL, London Exhibition and Convention Centre in London this afternoon. today international had the opportunity to speak with the President of the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP), Prof. Søren Jepsen from Germany, in advance about the importance of the event and why he recommends attending it.

today international: This week, the EuroPerio conference will be held in the UK for the first time. How was collaborating with the British periodontal societies, and what is your assessment of the preparations in general?

Prof. Søren Jepsen: Collaborating with EuroPerio Chairman Prof. Francis Hughes, who lives and works in London, was absolutely fantastic. We all enjoyed his great ideas, enthusiasm and humour and thank him for the tremendous amount of work.

The British Society of Periodontology with its president, Prof. Iain Chapple, and chair of the EuroPerio Ambassador Programme Prof. Nikos Donos in particular, significantly contributed to the event. Both the current and past presidents of the British Society of Dental Hygiene and Therapy, Julie Rosie and Michaela O’Neill, were also highly involved in the local organising committee and thanks to them we will see many dental hygienists coming to EuroPerio8.

I would also like to thank the many students from the various dental schools in London who agreed to volunteer at the event.

With over 100 internationally prominent experts, EuroPerio8 will again present an extensive and highly diverse scientific programme. What session can visitors particularly look forward to and what are your personal highlights?

The scientific programme is really top notch and diverse. There is something for everyone. Scientific Chairman Prof. Mariano Sanz has been very creative and has done a really excellent job.

There will be parallel sessions with different themes and for different target groups, Master Clinician Forums aimed at surgical experts, many sessions dealing with all aspects of implant therapy, sessions on realising modern periodontics in daily practice, as well as a whole lecture series about the current understanding of aetiology and pathogenesis of periodontitis. All these are presented by the absolute best in their respective fields.

Personally, I am looking forward to the keynote lectures on Saturday, as well as the many short presentations given by our younger generation, who have found an appropriate place within the main scientific programme. I also recommend that visitors not miss our closing event on Saturday. While I am not supposed to reveal more information at this point, attendees can be sure it will be a cracker!

The issue of peri-implantitis is more relevant than ever with an increasing number of implants being placed worldwide. How is this important area reflected in the programme?

Several main sessions are dedicated to this area and there will be a number of internationally renowned experts, including EFP General Secretary Prof. Stefan Renvert and EFP treasurer Jörg Meyle, who will speak about this issue. Moreover, some of the scientific short presentations will deal with peri-implant disease.

The interaction between periodontal and general health will also play a prominent role, starting with a world première of a film on Thursday morning.

Will there be new offerings compared to the last congress in Vienna?

For the first time, we will have the Patient Engagement Session on Wednesday afternoon. There, Prof. Ian Needleman and his team from London will present a film titled The Sound of Periodontitis: The Patient’s View of Gum Disease, which seeks to show what it means to suffer from periodontitis and to have periodontal treatment done from a patient’s perspective. This will be followed by a podium discussion involving patients and clinical experts.

Despite a high prevalence, periodontal disease still does not attract the attention it deserves, even in developed countries. Where do you see the main obstacles and what can be done to raise awareness among professionals and the general public?

Indeed, we know that more than 50 per cent of the adult population have periodontal disease. Severe periodontitis affects 11 per cent of the population and is the sixth most prevalent condition worldwide. Not many people actually know this, as well as the fact that non-treated periodontal disease can have negative consequences for one’s general health. The high prevalence of periodontal disease is alarming and demands significantly higher awareness and thorough prevention.

We intend to communicate these messages at a large press event to be held in London. Furthermore, events like EuroPerio significantly help to increase awareness of these issues among dental professionals and the general public. The congress has already received high interest from the profession and we expect up to 10,000 visitors from all over the globe. This demonstrates that EuroPerio has clearly become the worldwide largest congress in the fields of periodontics and implant dentistry.

The afore-mentioned patient symposium is going to strengthen public awareness. Finally, we plan to launch an information campaign for Europe that targets public and health officials.

In addition to European Periodontal Day, your organisation has recently launched a manifesto with the title Perio and General Health. What do you see as the role of the organisation within dentistry, and what goals are on the agenda for the time being?

We will certainly celebrate this anniversary properly at the general assembly of all national member societies of the EFP next year in Berlin. However, the party starts already here in London, where our colleagues and friends from all over the world are assembled.

At this point, the EFP is already one of the worldwide driving forces in the field of periodontics and implant dentistry. Its influence on dentistry, particularly through its annual consensus conferences (European workshops) and EuroPerio, should not be underestimated. We also have to acknowledge the EFP’s Journal of Clinical Periodontology with its editor Prof. Maurizio Tonetti.

For the next three years, we are planning to advance our vision of “Periodontal health for a better life”. For this, we will communicate the most important findings from our consensus conferences with regard to the interrelationship between oral and general health, as well as the prevention of periodontal and peri-implant disease, to the public. As mentioned, we are currently in preparations to launch a European wide campaign.

Thank you very much for the interview. «