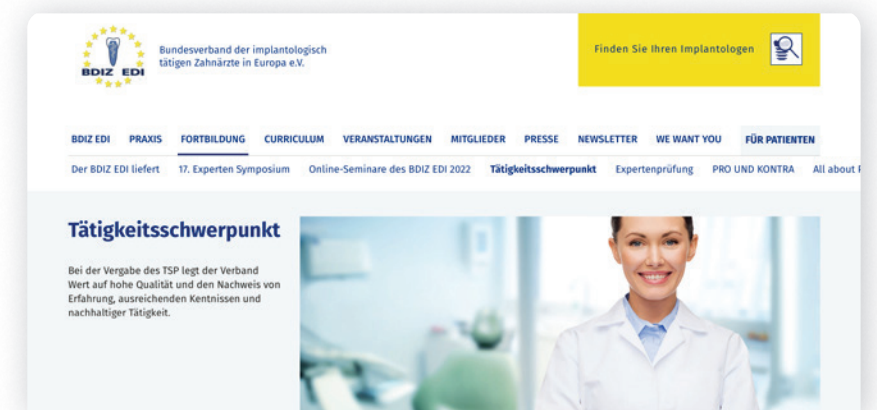


“Focus of Professional Activities: Oral Implantology”

Are you certified yet?

In Germany, a formal “Focus of Professional Activities” (FPA) is an official designation and an indication of a narrower area of specialisation of a professional—in our case, a dentist. The BDIZ EDI was instrumental in obtaining a ruling from the Federal Constitutional Court in 2001, to establish the “Focus of Professional Activities: Oral Implantology” (Tätigkeitsschwerpunkt Implantologie) as a legally permissible designation on practice nameplates or other information material aimed at the general public. This article outlines the requirements for an FPA: Oral Implantology.

In its decision of 23 July 2001 (1 BvR 873/00 and 1 BvR 874/00), the German Federal Constitutional Court approved the admissibility of a formal FPA: Oral Implantology on constitutional grounds, despite conflicting regulations in dental professional codes. One prerequisite for the admissibility of information describing (specifying) personal professional activities in detail is that the specified activities are carried out in a field of specialisation on a sustained basis.



Requirements for FPA certification

Licensed dentists, oral surgeons and oral and maxillofacial surgeons who meet the following requirements can apply for certification of a Focus of Professional Activities: Oral Implantology by the BDIZ EDI:

1. Certificate of attendance of the Curriculum Implantology
2. Evidence of at least three years' experience in oral implantology
3. Evidence of at least 200 implants (placed and/or restored)
4. and/or 70 patient cases (affidavit, with five to ten sample OPGs)
5. Membership of BDIZ EDI

FPA renewal or recertification

To renew an FPA: Oral Implantology certification, proof of continuing education in accordance with these guidelines must be provided after five years:

- 100 continuing-education hours or equivalent continuing-education credits
- 200 placed implants or 70 cases

Each renewal is granted for a five-year period. Without renewal, the FPA: Oral Implantology certification will lapse.

Register of oral implantologists

BDIZ EDI maintains a register of oral implantologists, which is used to refer patients seeking implant treatment to certified dentists, oral surgeons, or oral and maxillofacial surgeons. (In German-speaking countries and certain other European countries, including the UK, oral surgeons are specialised dentists, while oral and maxillofacial surgeons have degrees in both dentistry and medicine.)

To be included in this central register, the following requirements must be met:

1. Certified dentists or oral and maxillofacial surgeons should have several years of experience (at least three years) with at least two implant systems.
2. They should have placed and/or restored at least 200 implants or completed 70 cases.
3. They should be able to demonstrate that they place at least 50 implants per year.

Additional information

Applications for certification should be made to our Munich office. FPA guidelines and registration forms are available on the BDIZ EDI website at www.bdizedi.org/taetigkeitsschwerpunkt.

There is an administrative fee of €250 for certification, and €80 for inclusion in the central register of implantologists.

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