

## Portrait: BDIZ EDI—European Association of Dental Implantologists

# Getting involved

BDIZ, the German Association of Implant Dentists, was founded in 1989 to lend a strong voice to dentists in private practice active within the field of implant dentistry in their efforts to negotiate reasonable individual fees for private dental treatments. As early as 2002, the Association changed its name—and focus—to become BDIZ EDI, where EDI stands for “European Association of Dental Implantologists”.



Each year, the European Consensus Conference (EuCC) under the auspices of BDIZ EDI issues a consensus paper on a current practical topic within oral Implantology. To download the guidelines, use the QR code:

This early pan-European orientation of BDIZ EDI was based on the realisation that the increasing influence of “Brussels” on the healthcare sector does not stop at the door of the dental office. Many guidelines and policies, for example those governing professional recognition, medical devices, etc. originate at EU level. Accordingly, regular meetings are held with partner and associated organisations of BDIZ EDI to devise and implement continuing professional development (CPD) events, to keep members updated on new laws and guidelines and to intervene where appropriate. In doing so, BDIZ EDI maintains close contacts to Brussels, in particular with the Council of European Dentists (CED), but also with the dental associations of the member states.

### 6,000 members

The number of BDIZ EDI members is increasing continuously. At this point, the association serves 6,000 dentists in Germany and all over Europe. The primary goal of BDIZ EDI is to protect the freedom of therapeutic choice and to promote the field of oral implantology. Any dentist with the requisite qualification should be able to practice dental Implantology in his or her own practice.



The focus of the work of BDIZ EDI when it comes to German dentists is on private dental billing issues. The BDIZ EDI has compiled its interpretation of the GOZ—the German fee schedule for dentists treating private patients—that is recognised and accepted by public corporations, health insurers and related institutions.

## Continuing professional development

With its Curriculum Implantology, developed and held in cooperation with the University of Cologne, and the webinar programme, BDIZ EDI shows that it cares deeply about the next generation of implant dentists. As part of its commitment to CPD, the association organises internationally recognised symposia at home and abroad. The annual highlight is the BDIZ EDI Expert Symposium in Cologne that addresses one specific topical issue in oral Implantology every year. This is also where the European Consensus Conference (EuCC) is regularly held under the auspices of BDIZ EDI, issuing a new guideline annually. For example, the topic of 2023 was “2<sup>nd</sup> update of short, reduced-diameter and angled implants”. All guidelines can be downloaded in English from the BDIZ EDI website.

In addition, BDIZ EDI is an active member of the Consensus Conference Implantology, cooperating with all other professional societies within oral implantology—for example in guideline conferences targeting technical and medical aspects. To support individual dentists in their clinical work, the association has published patient guides on implant treatment and implant maintenance.

BDIZ EDI has also established a comprehensive network of technical and legal experts, as only experts with practical experience in oral Implan-



Helping patients—educating dentists—active in Europe: Members of the BDIZ EDI receive an official membership certificate stating the association's objectives and slogan.

## About...

The primary objectives of the BDIZ EDI are:

- to preserve the free exercise of the dental profession in the best interest of both patients and professionals.
- to strive for continuing further development of the oral implantology and to support the dental practice.
- to keeping oral implantology as a part of day-by-day dental treatment.
- to provide continuing education in the discipline of oral implantology—Europe-wide.
- to support dental clinicians with relevant clinical guidelines for the daily implant practice and treatment recommendations.



Become a member of the BDIZ EDI family and participate in a lot of benefits.

You will find all important details on our website [www.bdizedi.org](http://www.bdizedi.org). The adjacent QR code will lead you directly to the members' area.

tology are in a position to prepare state-of-the-art opinions with practical relevance. Quality improvements in implant dentistry, in everyday clinical practice as well as in material/technical terms, are the responsibility of the Quality and Research Committee.

It regularly examines and tests dental material in collaboration with renowned

research institutes (for example on surface contamination on implants in sterile packaging).

### Getting involved in legislation

Advocacy also extends to healthcare policies relevant for dentists. For example, BDIZ EDI developed draft alternative leg-

islation on combating corruption in health care, where the government draft by the German Ministry of Justice was totally inappropriate in terms of its potential consequences for German dentists. This work also regularly gives rise to guidelines for the dental office.

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European Consensus Conference of 2022 in Cologne.