

BDIZ EDI Board members on the association's 35th anniversary

Implantology and beyond

On the occasion of the 35th anniversary of BDIZ EDI, the editors of the *EDI Journal* asked members of the Board: how would you rate the association's achievements?

Dr Renate Tischer (Bad Salzungen)

Board member since 2001

BDIZ EDI will be celebrating its 35th anniversary the same year I will be celebrating my 50th anniversary as a dentist. I am proud to know many of the founding members personally. They helped me to successfully integrate oral implantology into my practice in the early 1990s. Then as now, the BDIZ EDI is the point of contact for all dentists working in implantology. As a member of the extended Board myself since 2001, I am always available to answer any questions, problems and concerns my colleagues may have.



Christian Berger (Kempten)

President since 2005; Vice President from 2001 to 2005

I have been involved from the very beginning—and I was around when oral implantology was just gaining scientific recognition in 1988. Today, our curricula enable every dentist to work independently in implantology, in their own practice.

The monetary value of each fee point in the German Standard Schedule of Fees for Dentists (GOZ) has not been increased for 40 years. BDIZ EDI is now focusing on the remuneration of implantology services—not least in comparison with international developments. Our tables show the way—far beyond oral implantology in the narrower sense. I know of no other dental organisation that is more innovative and more progressive.

Prof. Joachim E. Zöller (Cologne)

Vice President since 2005

I appreciate the work of the BDIZ EDI for us dentists because it is one of the few associations to formulate scientific statements. Since 2006, the European Consensus Conference (EuCC), under the auspices of the BDIZ EDI, has annually issued guidelines that have the status of a recommendation to provide practitioners with support on current issues relating to implant therapy. At times, these guidelines far transcend implant surgery and implant prosthodontics and cross the line into the legal realm. The association has also been very successful in the field of dental implantology training for many years. With the 25th curriculum already held in Cologne, a curriculum will soon be established in Munich.



Dr Nathalie Khasin (Berlin)

Board member since 2017

Exchanging ideas with European colleagues is not only exciting in itself, it also produces results. We offer young dentists in Germany and Europe the opportunity to study the BDIZ EDI curriculum and learn the basics of oral implantology at low cost and with passionate teachers—just think of our cooperation partners at the University of Cologne!



Anita Wuttke (Munich)

Press Officer since 2007; Editor-in-Chief of *konkret* and *EDI Journal* since 2013

No other dental association in Germany—or in Europe for that matter—is involved in such a broad range of activities. Working for the association—a task that goes far beyond science, practice, accounting and law takes us to Berlin, Brussels and Strasbourg—gives us a wealth of opportunities to cultivate the public relations work that still needs to be done!

Dr Jörg Neugebauer (Landsberg am Lech)

Secretary General since 2021; Chair of the Quality and Registration Committee since 2004

For 35 years now, the association has performed an incredible balancing act. The successful practice of oral implantology requires more than optimal treatment efforts. Questions of health politics, insurance law and the legal environment also play an important role, and here especially the cooperation with the manufacturers of medical devices.

**Prof. Thomas Ratajczak (Sindelfingen)**

Legal Counsel since 1992

35 years of BDIZ EDI: there is no other association that has achieved so much for the dental profession, in such a short time and with such commitment!

**Dr Stefan Liepe (Hannover)**

Managing Director since 2007; Secretary since 2009

For me, 35 years of BDIZ EDI means 35 years of active representation of the interests of dentists, of high-quality, advanced, scientifically validated training, but also of support in legal issues or challenges in practice management. And for me personally,

it marks 35 years of continuous work for dentists working in implantology.

**Dr Markus Tröltzsch (Ansbach)**

Board member since 2021

For me, the special thing about the association is that it looks beyond German national laws and regulations. Many EU regulations now affect German dental practices. A current example is the lawsuit filed by six dentists against the Federal Ministry of Health before the Administrative Court of Berlin for equal treatment in fee regulations—and the long-awaited increase in the GOZ point value.

Dr Detlef Hildebrand (Berlin)

Secretary from 2006 to 2009; Secretary General from 2009 to 2021; member of the Board since 2021

BDIZ EDI stands like a rock in the surf for dentists working in implantology. BDIZ EDI represents the interests of German and European dentists far beyond oral implantology. In the age of digital dentistry/implantology and the increasing use of artificial intelligence, it is good for us dentists to have the BDIZ EDI at our side as a professional association. Here's to the next 35 years in the service of implantology...

**Dr Wolfgang Neumann (Philippsthal)**

Treasurer since 2016; Board member since 2013

The BDIZ EDI contributes to the goal of legal certainty in many areas by providing legal support—from private dental billing issues to dental documentation, to name just a few examples. The association provides practical support for all dental practices in the areas of billing and continuing education, and here I would like to mention the new educational opportunities such as our new Curriculum Implantology in the south, the Billing Congress and the Expert Curriculum. In addition, there is the new BDIZ EDI table, which compares the GOZ fee schedule (private patients) with the BEMA fee schedule (statutory health insurance patients). This will be supplemented this year by a table with analogous fee positions. This activity of the association does only help implantology practices. BDIZ EDI members are always "up to date".

Dr Freimut Vizethum (Rauenberg)

Board member from 2006 to 2013 and since 2016; Chief Strategist since 2015

We are living at a time of fragile stability and social and health policy upheaval. Unpredictability, risks and increasing liability are directly or indirectly affecting the professional environment of implant and prosthetic dentists. In times like these we need an efficient and effective professional organisation that is committed to the interests of its members and contributes to the ongoing discussions in order to create improved and stable framework conditions in an increasingly bureaucratic environment through participation in political decisions. The Board is united and ambitious in its commitment to the association's members and will continue to be so in the future!

