

Collaboration of BDIZ EDI with EDI India on postgraduate education

# Ample opportunities for advanced training



In 2021, the BDIZ EDI and the associated partner EDI India entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the affiliated School of Dental Implants (SDI) in Hyderabad, India to jointly develop postgraduate training for Indian dentists in the discipline of oral implantology. In this interview, Dr Vikas Gowd, Director of the SDI, provides information on the objectives and opportunities for postgraduate training in oral implantology for dentists interested in implantology.

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***In Europe, oral implantology is still not a part of dentistry at the universities. How about India?***

The situation in India is similar to that in Europe. Implantology is generally introduced in a basic form at the undergraduate level, but is more extensively covered in postgraduate programmes and through specialised courses or certifications. Many dental colleges in India offer Master of Dental Surgery (MDS) programmes with a focus on prosthodontics, periodontics

or oral surgery, which include advanced training in implantology. In addition, there are various short and long-term courses specifically focused on implantology for practicing dentists who wish to specialise further in this area. So, while implantology may not be uniformly integrated into undergraduate programmes in both Europe and India, there are ample opportunities for advanced training in this area through postgraduate education and specialised courses.

## Programme structure

**Fellowship programme:** This is an entry-level certification that offers a comprehensive understanding of dental implantology, including foundational theories, clinical practices, and patient management. It typically includes hands-on training, live patient demonstrations, with cases on patients and case discussions with an exam of submission of 10 implant cases.

**Diplomate programme:** This is a more advanced level, usually pursued after completing the Fellowship or directly for someone who already has finished basic implantology and looking to enhance their skills. It focuses on complex implant cases, advanced surgical techniques, and problem-solving in implantology. The Diplomate programme often requires participants to present documented cases and pass a rigorous examination.

**Collaboration with EDI:** The collaboration with the European Association of Dental Implantologists ensures that the curriculum is aligned with international standards. Participants benefit from the latest research, techniques, and best practices from Europe.

The programme often includes guest lectures or workshops led by European experts, providing participants with a global perspective on dental implantology.

**Accreditation and certification:** Upon successful completion, participants receive certification recognised by both the School of Dental Implants and the European Association of Dental Implantologists. This certification can enhance the professional credentials of participants, making them more competitive in the field of dental implantology.

This programme is ideal for dental professionals in India and other regions who wish to achieve international standards in their implantology practice. It combines theoretical knowledge with practical skills, ensuring that participants are well-prepared to handle a wide range of implant cases.

Dr Vikas Gowd

***What is the Fellowship and Diplomate programme in collaboration with the European Association of Dental Implantologists all about?***

The Fellowship and Diplomate programme is a collaboration between Indian dental professionals and the European Association of Dental Implantologists (EDI) to provide advanced training in implantology. This partnership ensures that the programme follows international standards and incorporates the latest European research, techniques and best practices. Through this collaboration, participants will benefit from a curriculum in line with global trends and have access to workshops and lectures by European experts. On successful completion of the course, participants will receive certification recognised by both the School of Dental Implants and the European Association of Dental Implantologists. This certification can enhance participants' professional credentials and make them more competitive in the field of dental implantology. This programme is ideal for dental professionals in India and other regions who wish to achieve international standards in their implantology practice.

***Could you please explain the difference between both programmes?***

The Fellowship programme teaches basic implant dentistry skills suitable for beginners, including patient assessment, treatment planning and basic techniques. It usually lasts several months and participants receive a Fellowship certificate. In contrast, the Diplomate programme is an advanced certification aimed at those with Fellowship or equivalent experience and focuses on complex cases and advanced topics. The Diplomate programme takes longer to complete and participants receive a Diplomate certificate, which demonstrates a higher level of expertise.

Interview was conducted by Editor-in-Chief  
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