



Save the date: 21 June 2025

18th European Symposium in Stockholm

BDIZ EDI is organizing its 18th European Symposium, focusing on professional exchange within Europe. Demosthenes (384 to 322 BCE) already knew that "the starting point for the greatest undertakings often lies in barely perceptible opportunities".

Following the interdisciplinary CODM Congress, which will take place in Stockholm from 18 to 20 June 2025, BDIZ EDI will present its 18th European Symposium.

The annual World Congress of Dental, Oral and Maxillofacial Medicine (CODM) has been successfully organised eight times in recent years, attracting more than 500 participants from over 30 countries and regions. This international event focuses on basic research, advanced technologies and clinical applications and provides a platform for experts to discuss the latest research findings and achievements. To find out more about CODM, please visit www.bitcongress.com/codm2025.

The event hotel for CODM and the European Symposium is the Clarion in Stockholm. More information about the BDIZ EDI event will be available soon on the BDIZ EDI website.

Speakers will come from all over Europe—including, of course, members of the BDIZ EDI Board. The event will be held in English. Topics will include implant surgery and implant prosthetics.

Stockholm—then and now

Stockholm is probably named after the protective wooden poles (stock) that lined the sound of Lake Mälaren leading up to the islet (holme) which is today the central island called Stadsholmen or, more commonly, Gamla Stan. Its history of settlement dates back to the 11th century. Stockholm has been the royal residence since 1643.

Water covers about 30 per cent of the city's area. The city still draws its drinking water from Lake Mälaren; the high quality of the water makes it possible to fish for salmon right in the city centre. The city is spread over 14 islands connected by 53 bridges. Much of the city is wooded.

The site of present-day Stockholm was first mentioned by the Icelandic poet and saga writer Snorri Sturluson (1179–1241) in his Ynglinga saga, where he describes a barrier of poles across today's Norrström waterway, which he called Stokksunda. Excavations in the late 1970s uncovered the remains of water poles from the 11th century, which support this statement. Snorri also mentions a fortification tower from the 12th century, which is said to have been located where the royal castle has stood since 1580.

A letter of protection for Fogdö Monastery, issued in July 1252, is the oldest surviving document in which Stockholm is mentioned. The Erik Chronicle (Erikskrönikan), written between 1320 and 1335, states that the founder of Stockholm, the regent Birger Jarl, wanted to build a fortress around 1250 to protect Lake Mälaren from pirate raids.

In the 15th century, its strategic and economic importance made Stockholm an important factor in the conflicts between the Danish kings of the Kalmar Union and the Swedish national independence movement. With the arrival of Gustav Vasa in 1523 and the establishment of a strong royal power, Stockholm became an important royal residence. The royal court also be-





gan to shape the cityscape, which had previously been dominated by merchants—often German—and craftsmen.

Sweden rose to become a great power in the 17th century. This was reflected in the development of Stockholm—between 1610 and 1680 the population increased sixfold. In 1713 and 1714, Stockholm was ravaged by the plague. After the end of the Great Northern War and the resulting loss of Swedish territory in 1721, the city began to stagnate and continued to do so throughout the early 19th century. Norrköping became the largest manufacturing city and Gothenburg, with its favourable location on the Kattegat, a straight opening to the Skagerrak and the North Sea, became Sweden's most important export port. It was not until the second half of the century that Stockholm once again took on a leading role in the country's economic development. A number of important industrial companies were established here, with the result that Stockholm developed into an important centre for trade and services, as well as a transport hub.

Places of interest

Stockholm's cityscape and architecture are shaped by its unique location on the shores of Lake Mälaren, a freshwater lake that runs from west to east; a ridge of glacial moraine that runs from north to south; and the central island in the middle of the river. The city has many small parks, including Tegnérlunden, which is mentioned in Astrid Lindgren's work. The old town (Gamla Stan) on the city island (Stadsholmen) still has the medieval street network with the streets that cross the island from north to south (Österlånggatan and Västerlånggatan) and narrow alleyways sloping down to the water—which have become longer and longer over the centuries as the land has slowly risen following the disappearance of the heavy Ice Age glaciers, a process that continues to this day.

Why the European Symposium?

Every day we face new and continuing practical challenges. Undoubtedly, innovations in implant dentistry come from scientific advances and are translated into products developed by the dental industry. The demand from practicing dentists for new products and procedures and improved treatment options has culminated in the remarkable variety of new applications we see on the market today—new approaches to bone grafting, new capabilities in laser technology, chairside CAD/CAM and new materials of all kinds.

Given that we have already achieved very high standards and high success rates in implant therapy, it is not easy to strive for even better results and shorter treatment times. Nature sets limits. This makes it all the more important for implantologists to continue their education to stay abreast of the latest scientific and technical innovations and materials for the benefit of their patients and their practices. Education and training must keep pace with developments.

BDIZ EDI has therefore always considered the exchange of ideas as part of its professional focus. For the 18th time, BDIZ EDI will be organising its European Symposium in 2025—and for the first time in Scandinavia. Demosthenes (384–322 BCE) already knew that "small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises." This quote is characteristic of the BEDIZ EDI's European Symposia. Humble beginnings and spurious opportunities have been consolidated into a comprehensive approach that allows communities of dentists to transcend national borders and to intensify the exchange of ideas within Europe. The 18th European Symposium in Stockholm is a good example of this. It will once again demonstrate how implant dentists from all over Europe can benefit from each other's experience.

Christian Berger
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