Digital implantology —a sign of the times



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_It is a sign of the times that the dental industry and dental laboratories are trying to add to the value of implantology through the use of innovative technology and service concepts. Individual dentists practicing implantology are facing a number of current challenges, especially economic ones. Whether in the case of intraoral scanners, 3–D diagnosis and 3–D planning or CAD/CAM manufactured prostheses, the time for stand-alone applications is over. The largest implant manufacturers believe that the future lies in all-in-one solutions which focus in particular on patients' needs—i.e. which are gentle, safe, functional, aesthetic, long-lasting and of high quality.

Implantology associations such as DGZI are under an obligation to inform dentists, dental technicians and dental staff about these new methods, systems and approaches, but also to critique them at the same time. A specialized podium discussion on the topic of "Digital implantology—What will and what must be done?" will look at the topic of digitalization in the fields of general dentistry and implantology, and will play an important role at DGZI's 41th International Annual Congress in Cologne. Experts from home and abroad as well as university professors and dental practitioners will carry out an in-depth discussion and present contemporary concepts.

The board of the German Association of Dental Implantology (DGZI e.V.) looks forward to meeting you on September 30 and October 1, 2011, in Cologne.

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