

22nd Annual Scientific Meeting of the EAO

Source: Dental Tribune



Implants have come a long way since they were introduced to dentistry in the early 1950s. Future concepts and trends in the field were recently discussed by experts at the 22nd Annual Scientific Meeting of the European Association of Osseointegration (EAO) in Dublin, which took place from 17–19 October at the city's new state-of-the-art Convention Centre. Held for the second time in the Irish capital after 1995, the event did not only focus on current issues in the field, like periimplantitis and the challenges linked to the treatment of an increasing elderly population, but also reflected on new developments and methods in the field, such as computer-assisted implant rehabilitation and tissue regeneration. Moreover, a number of sessions also focused on risk factors, treatment planning and different learning techniques.

"There is a discrepancy between what a general dentist is expected to know/perform in implant dentistry and what the current education in most schools is teaching," explained Dr Nikos Mattheos from the University of Hong Kong's Faculty of Dentistry, EAO presenter and co-organiser of an implant education workshop recently held in Hungary. "All dental schools have increased the amount of teaching in the area of implant dentistry in the past five years and in many cases pre-clinical and clinical education components have been introduced. However, it is clear that there is still room for improvement."

New products for treatment outcomes that are more predictable and an improved workflow in dental practices and laboratories were also presented at an industry exhibition, which was supported by 87 corporate sponsors from around the world this year. Among others, MIS and Henry Schein showcased their latest tools for a complete digital workflow. In addition, Danish digital dental solutions provider 3Shape had its recently launched TRIOS intra-oral scanning system on display. New and improved implant systems were presented by ImplantDirect and a number of other companies. Straumann, for example, announced that its dental implant material Roxolid is now available for all diameters and all implant lines.

In addition to the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and the Oral Surgery Society of Ireland, the meeting received support from the Irish Society of Periodontology and the Prosthodontic Society of Ireland. Attendance figures for the congress were not available when this edition of implants went to print, but first predictions indicate that less dental professionals set off for Dublin than originally expected by the organiser. Last year's anniversary gathering in Copenhagen saw more than 2,500 professionals participating. The association's next Scientific Annual Meeting will take place in Rome in Italy next year. The event is scheduled to take place from 25–27 September. More details are expected to be announced by the EAO in the upcoming weeks.