

# Minimally invasive **treatment concepts** in Lucerne

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The 6<sup>th</sup> Swiss Biomaterial Days, which took place on 9 and 10 May 2014 in Lucerne, were dedicated to future-oriented, minimally invasive treatment concepts. Located on the northwestern tip of Lake Lucerne, the event provided its 150 participants from all over Europe with a complex scientific programme and top-level speakers.

Prof. Dr Walter Lückerath/University of Bonn, Germany, who held the scientific chair of the congress, stated in his invitation, "We are obliged to our patients to strive for less invasive procedures, so that treatment becomes less strenuous. With this in mind, we chose the topics and speakers for the 6<sup>th</sup> Swiss Biomaterial Days with a focus on minimally invasive concepts".

The pre-congress "Guidor Matrix Barrier" was directed by Prof. Dr Dr Erich Wintermantel. Parallel workshops on augmentation, periodontology, oral surgery and aesthetics started at noon, along with the main congress.

The key element of less or non-invasive treatment concepts is minimally invasive surgery. Therefore, Prof. Dr Dr Wilfried Engelke's speech dealt with the transfer of medical approaches—small incisions and endoscopy—to oral surgery and implantology. Dr Mario Kirste, Dr Minas Leventis and Prof. Lückerath showed how modifications of contemporary surgical or clinical procedures for the maintenance of the alveolar ridge can help simplify clinical procedures, thus reducing side effects of the treatment. Prof. Dr Ashish Kakar and Dr Antonio Flichy illustrated how immediate implantation can help reduce the number of sur-



Fig. 1

gical procedures. Prof. Dr Else Marie Pinholt's speech dealt with the microstructures of periimplant hard tissues after augmentation with bone substitutes.

Fig. 1 \_The Lucerne venue.

In addition, minimally invasive concepts should include new or recently discovered surgical approaches, offering the chance to complement or replace invasive techniques. Dr Dr Karl-Heinz Heuckmann and Prof. Kakar's workshops showed the participants how subperiosteal tunnel techniques can be applied successfully as minimally invasive techniques in lateral ridge augmentation. Often, the least invasive approaches are those which manage without surgery. In this context, PD Dr José Gonzales gave demonstrated non-surgical approaches to periodontal treatment concepts for patients with systemic diseases.

Fig. 2 \_Team Sunstar Guidor, Germany, CEO Dr Gerhard Pötsch (middle).

Fig. 3 \_Prof. Dr Walter Lückerath (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) and congress participants during the pre-congress.

Fig. 4 \_Prof. Dr Dr Erich Wintermantel during the pre-congress.



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4