



Dr Rainer Valentin  
Board member  
German Association for  
Dental Implantology (DGZI)

## The aging patient – the “young elderly”

Dear colleagues,

the average life expectancy of newborn boys is 76,89 years, and for newborn girls even 82,25 years. Aside from the fact that nature does not seem to treat men and women quite equally, the dentist can clearly derive the following: Dental medicine and dental implantology especially for senior citizens will become more important in the future. Nowadays older people are much more active than one could have imagined thirty or fifty years ago. The desire to look young and the youthful attitude towards life is growing increasingly in the so called “young elderly”, which naturally means a great challenge for us implantologists. It is self-evident that this is particularly the case in implantology. The German Association of Dental Implantology (DGZI) has already reacted and has included a special course for “Gerostomatology/Implantology for older patients and prosthodontics” in its curriculum. In cooperation with Bonn University we have developed a module for you, which provides the participants with profound knowledge about the demographical development and the current state-of-the-art of science concerning gerostomatology in Germany. Thus, you gain an opportunity to be well prepared for these patients.

The participants of this seminar will be informed in detail about the following:

- \_ Anatomical and physiological changes in patients.
- \_ How should a dental office look in general, in order to suit the requirements of older patients?
- \_ What has to be considered in view of the intake of medication or dental anaesthesia?
- \_ How can the implantologist proceed best regarding indication, planning of the treatment and prosthetic therapy?
- \_ You can gather more detailed information about our current curriculum at one of the most important international dental fairs, the IDS in Cologne, where as a matter of course DGZI is represented.

I am looking forward to welcoming you there personally.

Best regards

Dr Rainer Valentin  
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