

25 years of DGL!



Prof. Dr. Norbert Gutknecht

Dear DGL members and fans of laser technology,

Be aware: while leafing through this issue of *laser international magazine of laser dentistry* you will encounter indications and laser systems that, 25 years ago, the DGL founding fathers would not even have dreamt of.

These include blue-light diode lasers in dental surgery, radial firing tips in endodontics, the combination of wavelengths of the near and medium infrared range in periodontology as well as special treatment concepts in paediatric dentistry and modern marketing strategies for adapting laser economically to the dental practice.

When the first DGL Congress was held in Stuttgart/Germany in 1991, speakers and participants only discussed one specific wavelength, the Nd:YAG laser. People were fascinated by the possibility that laser light was transported via quartz fibre to the root canal and periodontal pockets. Those were the days of dental pioneers, going from trial and error to success and failure in quick succession.

The development of laser technology, the discovery of new wavelengths, the establishment of training programmes and the integration in the German Society for Dental and Oral Medicine (DGZMK) prompted the DGL to become today's society for laser dentistry. We now feature high academic standards, distinct treatment concepts for laser application in the dental practice and, most importantly in my opinion, a congress platform which discusses all available laser systems and indications objectively.

For all of the above reasons, I hope you will enjoy both reading our current issue of *laser international magazine of laser dentistry* as well as attending our anniversary congress in Munich.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. Dr. Norbert Gutknecht