

Fig. 1

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"The Future of Dentistry is Here"

Dr Diana Constantinescu, Romania

From 23 to 25 March 2018, the Romanian Association of Minimally Invasive Dentistry (ARSMI) hosted the first edition of the "The Future of Dentistry is Here" Symposium in Brasov, Romania. The two-day symposium was thus set in Transylvania—Dracula's country (Fig. 1). More than 150 clinicians from Bulgaria, Hungary, Germany, Spain, Iraq, the Netherlands, Greece and Romania, among others, attended the programme concentrating on dental specialties with lasers.

Our special thanks goes to Prof. Dr Norbert Gutknecht (Germany) for his participation and his support in making this event happen. He is a wonderful source of scientific information and a great inspiration to all of us. We also owe special thanks to all the speakers for their great lectures and for managing to cover 360 degrees of laser dentistry. Not only did all the doctors find useful information in each lecture, it was also a true pleasure listening to them.

The first day of the symposium started with a short opening ceremony held by Prof. Gutknecht. In the first lecture, Dr Dimitris Strakas (Greece) presented the topic "The Dracula's smile project: The truth behind the myth of laser bleaching". Dr Strakas shared insights on the bleaching mechanism and techniques using both diode and Er,Cr:YSGG laser.

Prof. Gutknecht dedicated the following session to "Lasers in endodontics—facts or fiction?" (Fig. 2). He spoke about the promising capacity of lasers in achieving the decontamination of the endodontic system. It was a great lecture that held everyone on the edge of their seats. After lunch, Prof. Gutknecht further presented on "Peri-implantitis: The tsunami in modern dentistry" and how it can be approached with the aid of lasers. Again, the decontamination effects that laser light has on both tissue and the implant surface and the minimally invasive techniques were in the spotlight.

The following lecture was given by Dr Monika Masilionyte (Lithuania) on "Saving compromised teeth: 940 nm diode laser assisted endodontic treatment". In the afternoon Dr Codruta Ciurescu (Romania), one of the first to achieve the Romanian Master of Science in Laser Dentistry spoke about "Laser periodontics" as a particular approach achieving remarkable results. Further Dr George Mihai (Romania) reported on "The benefit of the laser treatment in edentulous abscission of gum hyperplasia" with a case presentation.

The scientific programme of the day ended with Dr Alida Moise (Romania) presenting on "Conscious sedation in dentistry". Dr Moise spoke about the nitrous oxide sedation in the dental office covering sedation mecha-



Fig. 2


Fig. 3


Fig. 4


Fig. 5

Fig. 1: Impression of the symposium venue: Bran Castle near Brasov, Romania—Dracula's castle. **Fig. 2:** Prof. Gutknecht presenting on "Lasers in endodontics—facts or fiction?". **Figs. 3 & 4:** Conference participants gaining further practical experience during the workshop sessions. **Fig. 5:** Closing party with wonderful people, good wine and great music.

nisms and techniques, the indication for this type of sedation and the legal aspects of performing it. In the evening everyone enjoyed a well-deserved cocktail party.

The second day of the symposium was characterised by further scientific insights of the invited experts. Dr Moise started the day, this time presenting on "Allergies, accidents, incidents, resuscitation". The next speaker was Dr Pierre Bruet (France) who reported on "Soft- and hard-tissue management after extraction" sharing his vast experience in the classical approach of surgery and implantology with the audience.

The following presentation was held by Dr Gilles Chaumanet (France), who spoke about "Predictable implantology using the new minimally invasive techniques strategy and dual wavelength procedure". Dr Chaumanet described surgical techniques as well as the applications and the benefits of combining the 940 nm diode laser and Er,Cr:YSGG in implantology.

After the lunch break Dr Youssef Sedky (Egypt) concentrated on the topic "940 nm diode laser: My magic wand in orthodontics". Dr Sedky highlighted how orthodontic treatments can be accelerated by using the bio-stimulation effect of the 940 nm diode laser and also emphasised the soft-tissue surgical applications of this laser.

Laser pain therapy specialist Dr Maria Pilar Martin (Spain) concluded this day of conferences with two presentations. The first one was called "LLLT in dentistry", in which Dr Martin spoke about the benefits of light for the human body and how to integrate this bio-stimulating effect of lasers in treatment. The second lecture focused on "Lip repositioning and dermatology with laser". Here, Dr Martin explained her multidisciplinary approach on solving aesthetic pathologies, facial asymmetries, postural problems, gummy smile and rejuvenation treatments. She demonstrated that lasers can be very effective and at the same time minimally invasive in these types of treatment—summarising how the proper use of lasers can lead to life-changing results for the patients.

In addition to the scientific lectures, the practical aspect of the treatments was also not neglected. Workshop sessions on laser application skills and implantology were offered during the first and the second day of the symposium (Figs. 3 & 4). The last day of the conference ended with a gala dinner. It was a great party that had all the right ingredients: wonderful people, good wine and great music (Fig. 5).

Needless to say that the first edition of the "The Future of Dentistry is Here" Symposium was a success, a true learning experience and a nice occasion to meet great doctors from around the world. Once again, we congratulate all the speakers, we thank all the doctors that joined us and we are looking forward to doing it all again next year.

contact

Cristina Toader
ARSMI
Bd. Corneliu Coposu Nr. 7
030602 Bucharest, Romania
cristina@laser-stomatologic.ro