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Helping clinicians in determining

## Dental implant complications

Implants are a preferable substitute to dentures as they are more comfortable, stable and functional. They can, however, create problems like peri-implantitis that can cause extensive bone loss. A recent study, titled “Peri-implantitis: A Comprehensive Overview of Systematic Reviews”, examined current scientific literature to gain a better understanding of peri-implantitis and help clinicians detect and treat the condition more quickly.

The research team from Temple University, USA, collected data regarding risk factors and microorganisms associated with peri-implantitis aiming at identifying the best diagnostics and treatment options available. A higher occurrence of peri-implantitis was found among implant patients who were smokers and who had periodontitis, uncontrolled diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Additionally, it was found that implants serve as a surface where microorganisms can settle and grow. Several bacte-

rial species and viruses such as the Epstein-Barr virus were prevalent in patients with implants who had peri-implantitis. These microorganisms can cause plaque formation and inflammation characteristic of peri-implantitis. Thus, clinicians now have a concise list of factors that predispose patients with implants to peri-implantitis.

“It is important to realise that dental implants require the same care and maintenance as natural teeth, especially in patients with a high risk for peri-implantitis,” said author Miriam Ting. Up to date no standard treatment for peri-implantitis exists. Future work is required to standardise the definition of peri-implantitis, and larger clinical experiments are needed to determine the most effective treatment.

**Source: Journal of Oral Implantology**

New classification of periodontal and

## Peri-implant diseases and conditions

A new global classification system for periodontal health, diseases and conditions, as well as peri-implant diseases and conditions, has been announced at the EuroPerio9 congress in June 2018.



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The comprehensive classification was based upon the most contemporary evidence and includes a staging and grading system for periodontitis, indicating severity and extent of disease, accounting for lifetime disease experience and taking into account the patient's overall health status.

The new classification is the outcome of a joint workshop held by the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP) and the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) in Chicago, USA, in 2017. The workshop included over 100 experts from Europe, America, Australia and Asia who reviewed existing literature to create a global consensus that enables care to be standardised for patients around the world. In the new classification, clinical health is defined for the first time and periodontitis is described in four stages, ranging from “least severe” (Stage 1) to “most severe” (Stage 4). The risk and rate of disease progression has been categorised into three grades. The grading considers risk factors like smoking and the presence of concomitant diseases, such as diabetes.

“The new classification should provide a globally consistent approach to diagnosis and management and ultimately improve outcomes for our patients,” said Prof Iain Chapple, EFP Secretary General.

**Source: EFP**

## Acupuncture could reduce Dental anxiety

Fear of the dentist has multiple reasons and effects, there is, however, limited research on the impact and possible treatment methods for dental anxiety. To look deeper into the topic, researchers from the University of York, UK, have recently reviewed a number of studies on treating dental anxiety with acupuncture. For the systematic review and meta-analysis, six trials with a total of 800 patients were chosen. The researchers used a points scale to measure anxiety, which was shown to be reduced by eight points when dental patients were given acupuncture as a treatment. According to the researchers, this level of reduction is indicating that acupuncture could be a possibility for treating dental anxiety. Co-author of the study, titled "Acupuncture for anxiety in dental patients", Dr Hugh MacPherson, Professor of Acupuncture Research at the University of York's Department of Health Sciences, expressed

that the scientific interest in the effectiveness of acupuncture both as standalone and as accompanying treatment was increasing. "If acupuncture is to be integrated into dental practices, [...], then there needs to be more high-quality research that demonstrates that it can have a lasting impact on the patient. Early indications look positive, but there is still more work to be done," summarised MacPherson.

**Source: DTI**

## Oral Reconstruction Foundation is

## Welcoming new chairman and new board members

The Oral Reconstruction Foundation first announced its new chairman at the Oral Reconstruction Global Symposium 2018 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. The foundation welcomed Prof. Dr Dr Dr Robert Sader, Director and Chair of Oral, Cranio-Maxillofacial and Facial Plastic Surgery at Goethe-University Frankfurt, Dean for clinical student affairs and Medical Director of the University Dental Institute Carolinum as its new chairman. Additionally, Oscar Battegay, Partner at Battegay Dürr AG attorney-at-law and civil law Notary Public in Basel, Switzerland, also joined the board of directors. Prof. Dr Irena Sailer, Head Division of Fixed Prosthodontics and Biomaterials at the University of Geneva completes the scientific board.

The new board will discuss progressive ideas in regards to the creation and dissemination of knowledge by funding research proj-

ects and advanced education, as well as sponsoring young scientific talents and will remain faithful to its commitment to "Teaming up science and education to serve the patient".

Prof. Sader and Prof. Sailer will support the foundation with ideas in regards to education and scientific aspects, whereas Oscar Battegay supplies his knowledge as specialist in national and international corporate law in addition to legal and strategic support. All new board members are selected for a four-year term. The new members will join the existing board of Prof. Dr F. Guerra (PT), Prof. Dr T. Taylor (US), Dr A. Schär (CH), Prof. Dr M. Sanz (ES) and Prof. Dr W. Wagner (DE; Fig. 1).

**Source: Oral Reconstruction Foundation**

Fig. 1: F. Guerra (PT), O. Battegay (CH), Chairman R. Sader (DE), I. Sailer (CH), T. Taylor (US), A. Schär (CH), M. Sanz (ES), missing in the picture: W. Wagner (DE).

