

“Lasers in Dentistry” offered again

## At RWTH Aachen University in 2020

In 2020 the M.Sc. programme “Lasers in Dentistry” will be offered again at RWTH Aachen University in Germany, starting on 17 September 2020. The postgraduate course is aimed at dentists looking to deliver on their patients’ wishes for innovative and gentle treatment methods. In most academic dentistry studies, dental laser technologies and laser-assisted treatment concepts are often no part of the curriculum. In this two-year Master course, however, the necessary professional knowledge for successfully integrating laser technology into the dental practice is taught at the highest academic level through theoretical lectures and practical teachings. Participants obtain an in-depth theoretical knowledge in lectures and seminars led by renowned and experienced international scientists and practitioners. Skill training sessions, exer-



## Aachen Dental Laser Center

cises, practical applications, live operations and workshops guide participants towards using lasers successfully and professionally in their own oral surgeries. More information can be found online at [www.aalz.de](http://www.aalz.de).

Source: AALZ

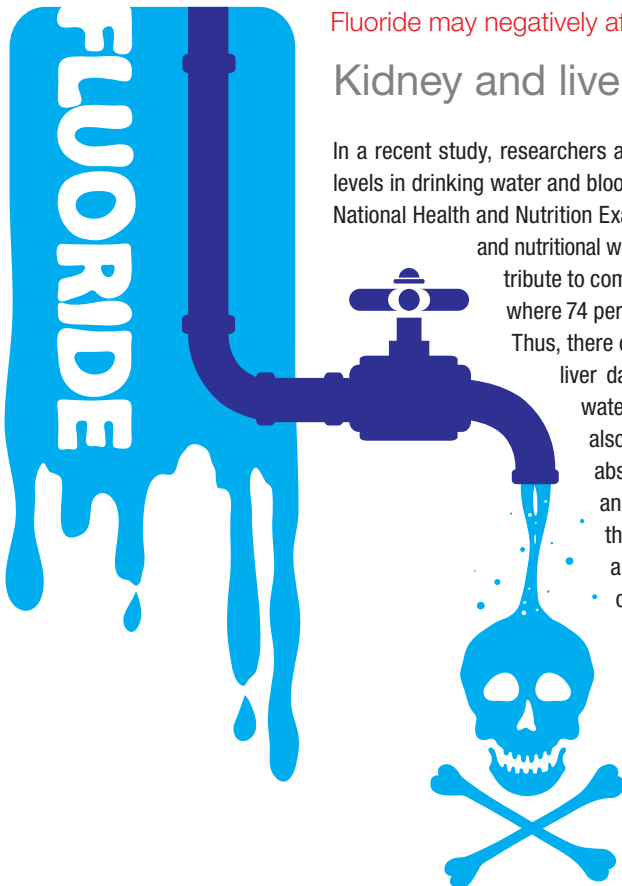
## Join DGL!

Register now at [www.qr.oemus.com/6152](http://www.qr.oemus.com/6152) or scan the QR on the right and become a member of the German Association of Laser Dentistry (DGL).

Application form



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Fluoride may negatively affect

## Kidney and liver function

In a recent study, researchers at Mount Sinai hospital, New York, examined the effect of fluoride levels in drinking water and blood on the kidney and liver health of adolescents participating in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), a group of studies that assess health and nutritional well-being in the USA. It was shown that exposure to fluoride may contribute to complex changes in kidney and liver function among youth in the USA, where 74 per cent of public water systems add fluoride for dental health benefits.

Thus, there can be potential health side effects, such as renal system damage, liver damage, thyroid dysfunction, bone and tooth disease. Fluoridated water is the main source of fluoride exposure in the USA. The findings also suggest that adolescents with poorer kidney or liver function may absorb more fluoride into their bodies. Fluoride exposure in animals and adults has been associated with kidney and liver toxicity, and this study examined potential effects of chronic low-level exposure among youth. This is important because a child’s body excretes only 45 per cent of fluoride in urine via the kidneys, whereas an adult’s body clears it at a rate of 60 per cent. Moreover, the kidneys accumulate more fluoride than any other organ in the body. The study, titled “Fluoride exposure and kidney and liver function among adolescents in the United States: NHANES, 2013–2016”, was published in August 2019 in *Environment International*.

Source: DTI