

The City of Light provides back-drop for the first EACim Congress



On 28 June 2019, the first congress of the European Academy of Ceramic Implantology (EACim) was successfully held in Paris, France, where specialists from nine nations gathered to discuss the theme of ceramic implantology. Held under the theme “Ceramic implants, an alternative to titanium”, the congress was packed with scientific lectures and friendly exchange between participants, speakers and the many industry partners supporting the project. At the event, one could easily sense the growing interest in ceramic implantology and a promising open-mindedness toward things to come for this still rather young discipline in implantology.

Perfectly embodying today’s growing excitement about zirconia-based implantology, former EAO President Dr Pascal Valentini had the honour of chairing the congress. Dr Pascal Eppe delivered a lecture, in which he brilliantly explained the notion of “immuno-integration”, a decisive factor in eventually establishing zirconia as material of choice in implantology. Thereafter, Dr Fabrice Baudot discussed preventive aspects of zirconia: he argued that a long-term stable interaction between the interface and soft tissue is vital for countering the growing scourge of peri-implantitis. Dr Giancarlo Bianca then highlighted the superior biological and mechanical behaviour of ceramic implants by sharing insight into his 13 years of clinical experience. Afterwards, Dr Philippe Duchatelard touched on fundamental material-specific aspects, emphasising the mechanical strength of the latest generations of

zirconia implants. Also, he outlined scientific concepts that might help clinicians in deciding which prosthetic components to choose for which implant system.

A further contribution to winning over the audience in favour of this promising evolution in implant dentistry was made by Dr Simon Tordjman, who presented the advantages of monobloc implants with great conviction. He argued that with monobloc implants the clinical practice becomes simpler, more intuitive, and more accessible to clinicians. The approach to dental structures using monobloc implants is completely in line with the philosophy of biomimetic dentistry. Moreover, Dr Stéphanie Gouran showed how easy taking optical impressions and digitising prosthetic cases has become, propelling ceramic implantology into the world of the digital workflow. Finally, Dr Franz-Jochen Mellinghoff summed up the concepts discussed during the congress in one magnificent presentation, in which it was shown that, with ceramic implants, even the most complex reconstructions can be treated.

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Fig. 1: From left: Dr Fabrice Baudot (France), Dr Giancarlo Bianca (France), Dr Stéphanie Gouran (France), Dr Pascal Valentini (France), Dr Franz-Jochen Mellinghoff (Germany), Dr Pascal Eppe (Belgium), Dr Philippe Duchatelard (France) and Dr Simon Tordjman (France).

