

Dr Xavier Struillou elected

New President of the EFP



Xavier Struillou is the new President of the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP), the global benchmark in periodontal science and practice and in implant dentistry. Associate Professor



of periodontology at the University of Nantes in France, Dr Xavier Struillou succeeds Prof. Filippo Graziani from the University of Pisa in Italy at the top position of the EFP, a scientific organisation that brings together 37 national member societies and more than 16,000 periodontists and other oral healthcare professionals from Europe and around the world. A member of the executive committee of the EFP since 2017 and coordinator of European Gum Health Day 2018, Xavier Struillou is the first Frenchman to lead the EFP since Jean-Louis Giovannoli, who was the federation's first President back in 1992. Listening to EFP-affiliated societies and collaborating closely with them are high among Struillou's priorities: "At the EFP we aim to inspire our member societies, to guide them, and to serve them. The heart and the engine of our federation is our 37 affiliated societies. Their drive is the EFP's drive, and we are deeply indebted to them." For further information contact press@efp.org.

Source: European Federation of Periodontology

Annual meeting of ISMI

Postponed to 2021

The International Society of Metal Free Implantology (ISMI) initially planned to hold its 2020 annual congress in May in Berlin, Germany. Owing to the travel and other restrictions that have arisen from the current COVID-19 pandemic, however, the decision was made to postpone the event to 2021. The sixth annual meeting of the ISMI is now set to take place on 7 and 8 May 2021 at the Hotel InterContinental in Düsseldorf in Germany. Held under the theme "Ceramic implants—State of the Art", the two-day event held under the scientific direction of Drs Dominik Nischwitz (Germany) and Karl Ulrich Volz (Switzerland) will kick off on Friday with two pre-congress symposia, involving the live streaming of a surgery via the internet. The highlight

of the first congress day will be the ISMI White Night, where both participants and speakers will be able to wind down in an informal atmosphere. Saturday will then be dedicated to scientific lectures. On both congress days, the programme will cover practical experiences and current trends in the use of ceramic implants, as well as biological aspects of metal-free implantology. The objective will be to set new standards in this particularly innovative field of oral implantology and to further advancements together with colleagues from around the world. For more information contact the organiser at event@oemus-media.de.

Source: OEMUS MEDIA AG

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Protection from COVID-19 with

3D-printed masks and face shields

Owing to mask supplies fast becoming exhausted, many healthcare professionals around the world are increasingly unable to comply with the recommended infection control practices. The shortage has prompted extended use and reuse of face masks in healthcare settings, thus increasing the professionals' risk of contracting SARS-CoV-2. To help ease the depleted supplies, many federal agencies have relaxed regulations on mask use and some institutions have taken the initiative to help those fighting on the front line against COVID-19 by producing 3D-printed face masks and shields. These masks are based on facial scanning, 3D imaging and 3D printing and consist of two 3D-printed reusable polyamide composite components, a face mask and a filter membrane support produced with the help of CAD. Additionally, the masks employ a disposable head fixation band and a filter membrane, both available from in-

dustrial manufacturers producing FFP2/3 protective masks, according to a recently published research article. In this article, the researchers note that clinical testing, including dermatological considerations, leakage and virological testing of the reusable components of the masks, has not been performed yet. This, according to them, is crucial before use, as are proper cleaning and disinfection control. The article was first published on 30 March 2020 in the *International Journal of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery* and can be accessed online (Swennen GRJ, Pottel L, Haers PE. Custom-made 3D-printed facemasks in case of pandemic crisis situations with a lack of commercially available FFP2/3 masks, *International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery*(2020),doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijom.2020.03.015>).

Source: Dental Tribune International

FDA investigates into

Metals used in medical devices

Metals and metal alloys are commonly used in implanted medical devices and in inserts like amalgam dental fillings, and these materials are sometimes in contact with parts of the body for extended periods of time. Part of the FDA's evaluation to determine whether a medical device is safe and effective involves reviewing information about metals and other materials used in the device. The FDA have received adverse event reports that note biological responses to certain metals used in medical devices. Based on their evaluation, they believe the current evidence, although limited, suggests some individuals may be predisposed to develop a local or systemic immune or inflam-

matory reaction when exposed to certain metals contained in select implantable devices. Reported systemic symptoms include fatigue, rash, joint and muscle pain, and weakness. To better understand how patient respond to materials used in medical device implants and harness that information to improve the safety of devices in patients, the FDA is working to engage the public—in particular, scientists, patients, and healthcare providers—and industry stakeholders to determine the current state of the science, critical gaps in the existing science, and what approaches the FDA should consider.

Source: Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

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