

Dr Georg Bach

President of the DGZI



The second half of this year will be **crucial**

Dear readers,

The crisis in the first half of 2020 has forced considerable challenges upon us, which are here to stay for the months and probably years to come. As is the case with many crises, however, there are also opportunities and positive aspects, in contrast to the economic damage and the structural disruptions. We as dentists, together with our teams, are currently doing everything we can to re-establish regular practice routines and to get our patients back into dental care—in accordance with the necessary infection prevention measures, of course. Recent weeks have shown that dentistry has a clear obligation regarding the general health of the population. There is no other medical profession that provides the population in all its variety with such regular care, through dentists working in public clinics and private practices. Especially within the German healthcare system, patients in risk groups, the old and the young, the chronically ill and emergency patients receive reliable dental treatment of the highest standard. After all, oral health plays a crucial part in maintaining the systemic health of patients. Untreated inflammation in the oral cavity, denture pressure points, caries, periodontal disease and other conditions can cause not only adverse situations in the masticatory apparatus but also damage to the entire body.

Dental implantology plays a key role here, being the only dental therapy capable of treating patients of nearly all age groups with a myriad of prosthetic possibilities and

surgical protocols in such an individually tailored and sophisticated way. Undoubtedly, there is a medical necessity for and effectiveness in rehabilitating masticatory function with dental implants, even in high-risk patients. We as professional implantologists should thus continue our efforts with great courage to educate our patients regarding the best possible treatment options even in these challenging times. The second half of this year will be decisive in terms of not only crisis management but also further implantological training. In this light, it is my great pleasure to cordially invite you, on behalf of the German Association of Dental Implantology (DGZI), to Bremen in Germany on 6 and 7 November, for our 3rd Future Congress for Dental Implantology and a celebration of 50 years of DGZI.

With this in mind, I wish you an enlightening read with this new issue of *implants* and a healthy late summer and autumn. I look forward to welcoming you to our special anniversary congress in Bremen, the founding city of DGZI!

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. Bach', written in a cursive style.

Dr Georg Bach