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A new year, new faces and new long-term data

Today, patients have significant access to information and may come into the dental office with in-depth questions or recommendations regarding their treatment. Responding to these may require dentists to learn more about new procedures or technologies, looking at the scientific evidence with a critical eye. Regarding dental implantology, for example, there is market demand for a broader range of indications and greater prosthetic flexibility. Now new reliable long-term data on the clinical success of two-piece ceramic implants has made a fundamental contribution to evidence-based implantology, heralding a paradigm shift in the scientific discussion about ceramic implant systems. Many readers will be learning about this evidence for the first time in this issue of **ceramic implants**.

Among the new generation of ceramics in dentistry, zirconia presents outstanding aesthetic characteristics, a low propensity for plaque adhesion around the implant surface, excellent biocompatibility, and good osseointegration, muco-integration and biomechanics. In addition, zirconia implants have characteristics similar to those of titanium implants, and zirconia is frequently used in implant prostheses with pleasing results.

This issue of **ceramic implants** provides reports on the advantages of ceramic implants and a scientific update on the topic, including a worldwide survey by the European Society for Ceramic Implantology, conducted to gain a deeper insight into the daily use of ceramic implants. The survey findings provide valuable information for the further development of ceramic implants and make an important contribution to their reliable use—ultimately for the safety of patients. It is clear that

the work being done in dental clinics and continuing education regarding the use of ceramic implants are contributing greatly to this development. This issue of **ceramic implants** is good testimony to that: numerous research articles, case reports, reviews and upcoming events testify to an extraordinarily active community.

Over the past two years, continuing dental education in the form of in-person events has practically come to a standstill—not only in Europe but also beyond. Many of the great events in the dental world, like the International Society of Metal Free Implantology's annual conference, EuroPerio and the European Association for Osseointegration's annual scientific meeting, had to be called off. In-person events are slowly resuming, and the opportunity these offer for exchange among peers and socialising is more appreciated than ever.

Like the title of this editorial implies, we have something new to announce. There is a new dynamic duo in implant dentistry publishing: Timo Krause, OEMUS MEDIA AG product manager, and I are excited to have teamed up to write articles for our magazine. These are aimed at providing our readers with a comprehensive overview which reflects the diversity of ceramic implant initiatives, and we hope to live up to this objective in this new issue of **ceramic implants**.

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Sincerely wishing you an enjoyable read,

Janine Conzato
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