



Dr Friedhelm Heinemann  
President of DGZI

# The Worldwide Implantology Trend

Dear Colleagues,

The year 2008 is going to be the year of implantology. Like no other discipline of modern dentistry, implantology affects almost all areas and ultimately acts as a sort of interdisciplinary tie. Furthermore, contemporary treatment concepts of oral rehabilitation should always entail an implantological approach, because in view of modern augmentation procedures and custom-made implants, today it is possible to perform oral implantations even under the most difficult bone conditions.

Despite all the progress that has been made, the focus remains on additional optimization of the peri-odontal endosseous interface and the associated topic of long-term success of implants. Worldwide, research teams at universities and implant developers of the leading implant manufacturers are trying to get a handle on the one problem area, the point of emergence of the implant, which is so crucial for the long-term success of the implant. In other words, the aim is to considerably improve soft tissue adherence at the neck of the implant and to decrease epithelial downgrowth. This means that today's dentists can avoid bone resorption around the implant, which has been described in previous studies. We thus eagerly look forward to the presentations on this exciting topic and others at this year's international meetings and in publications.

The DGZI and its partners from science, industry and practice will be working together at the highest professional level to find the solution to these issues. Our active contribution are our own scientific events and continuing education programs as well as participation in international know-how transfer. In this context, one upcoming highlight is the 4<sup>th</sup> Arab-German Implantology Meeting on march 7-8, 2008, in Dubai. Excellent international participation has made this meeting one of the most important implantological events in the Middle East and beyond. I hope to meet you at this international scientific meeting with colleagues and friends in march in Dubai.

In this spirit, I wish you, dear colleagues, a successful 2008.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr. F. Heinemann', with a long, sweeping underline.

Dr Friedhelm Heinemann