

Speech of the President of the BDIZ EDI at the 2024 Annual Meeting in Dresden



Politics and policies

Dear colleagues:

Our Association was founded 35 years ago in response to the 1988 GOZ. Since then, we have gone down many different roads—even to the Federal Constitutional Court. As you probably know, six dentists (mainly members of our Board) have filed a complaint with the Berlin Administrative Court on the initiative of the BDIZ EDI and with the

support of our legal advisor—thank you, Thomas Ratajczak, for your incredible preparatory work. The wheels are turning slowly as the Federal Ministry of Health makes the most of all the time available. But eventually—and we hope during Lauterbach's term of office—the Federal Ministry of Health will have to take a stand.

As early as 2022, we had decided to take legal action against the unequal treatment in the fee schedules and against the 65-year standstill in the GOZ point value. We deplore the fact that the legal requirements of Section 15 of the German Dentistry Act (ZHG) have not been complied with for decades by failing to adjust the dentists' fee schedule. The federal government seems to have no problem adjusting the veterinary fee schedule regularly to changing economic conditions, most recently on 1 October 2022.

Lawyers will also receive another fee increase. This unequal treatment violates the general principle of equality (Article 3 [1] of the German Basic Law) and the freedom of dentists to exercise their profession (Article 12 [1] of the German Basic Law).

Continuing professional development

The BDIZ EDI is also picking up speed in the area of training. Prof. Joachim E. Zöller will tell you more about this in a moment. But perhaps a brief mention of the Curriculum Implantology in Cologne is in order. The 25th Curriculum will soon be completed, and we already have a long list of prospects for the 26th Curriculum.

The Curriculum is a success story, with almost 1,000 participants having successfully completed the course to date. More than 80 per cent of them remain members of BDIZ EDI. More about this and our latest project—Curriculum South, starting at the end of September—from Prof. Zöller.

Communication

In order to save money and resources, we regularly keep our members informed through our BDIZ EDI newsletter. Subscribers regularly receive news about current developments and, of course, about upcoming virtual and face-to-face events. 2,300 members are currently subscribed to the newsletter. If you do not yet receive it, please contact our office.

Consensus Conferences

The BDIZ EDI not only participates in the Consensus Conferences on implantology, but also in the guideline conferences of DG Paro, DGI and DGZMK, in order to contribute the broad professional competence of its oral implantologists.

Today we held our 34th Conference of Experts on Implantology on behalf of the Consensus Conference. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our partner, the State Dental Association of Saxony, and in particular its President Dr Thomas Breyer and his staff, as well as the Saxony State Association of Statutory Health Insurance Dentists (KZV), on whose premises we are meeting.

Europe

In May 2024, the BDIZ EDI actively participated in the four-chamber meeting of the Dental Chambers of the Czech Republic, Saxony, Bavaria and Austria in Český Krumlov. More to come soon in *EDI Journal*. The European Symposium was held in Split, Croatia this year and showed that we can organise nice and small symposia with high-quality presentations and renowned speakers. Looking ahead to 2025, we are planning to be in Stockholm, Sweden on 20 June.

This year we are celebrating the 35th anniversary of BDIZ EDI. We have invited the founding members to join us here in Dresden. I would like to extend a very warm welcome to Werner Hotz, who is one of the founding members. I am personally delighted that you are here with us today. Unfortunately, we learned in April that another founding member had passed away: Dr Hans-Joachim Foet. We will remember him with affection and respect.

Looking ahead

The 20th Expert Symposium will take place at the beginning of March next year, followed by IDS 2025. It is important for us to be there to present our work to a wider audience. Participation is a must for us to “stay in the game” and to present ourselves and our partner associations as the international point of contact for all issues relating to oral implantology, dental billing and health care law.

Publications, web, social media

I would also like to remind you of our website and our newsletter, which we publish to keep you up to date with the latest news and information on our webinars. Take advantage of being the first to know! Subscribe to the newsletter via our website if you have not already done so. You will receive valuable



information on current events, helpful templates to download and, of course, lots of useful information on billing and legal issues.

Make sure you use the members' area on our website. This is the only way to access recorded webinars, download important forms or checklists, and search the case-law database.

We are now on almost every social media platform: Facebook, Instagram, X and YouTube—we would love for you to follow us there!

The Board

Once again, our Board members have worked with great passion and commitment to provide you with valuable information and our recommendations. I would like to thank Joachim E. Zöllner, Jörg Neugebauer, Detlef Hildebrand, Stefan Liepe, Wolfgang Neumann, Freimut Vizethum, Renate Tischer, Nathalie Khasin and, since 2021, Markus Tröltzsch, who is not only an internationally sought-after speaker but also brings a lot of fresh ideas to our association.

Thank you so much for your great contributions!

Thank you also to all those who work in our committees, and last but not least our auditors.

Membership

As of 29 June 2024, we had a total of 2,288 members. It is becoming clear that we still have many first-generation members who have been working in their practices for more than 20 or even 30 years, but there are also members who are gradually retiring from their practices. However, most of them nevertheless choose to remain (non-paying) members—which makes us very happy. This reflects clearly and favourably on the Association and its work.

On the other hand, we also need new blood to remain strong in the face of internal and external challenges and to be able to respond to new laws, regulations and ordinances. I would like to appeal to you to help us stay strong. Talk to the young people in your practice, show them what we can do. After all, this is what we have proven not least in these challenging times. Thank you very much for coming to Dresden today.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff of BDIZ EDI: Brigitte Nötzel in Cologne, Helga Karanikas in Munich and Marion Kerstin Salhoff, who is responsible for the billing hotline. And I would like to thank Anita Wuttke for her many years of commitment to the media work of the Association. She is also responsible for European affairs and is Editor-in-Chief of our journals *BDIZ EDI konkret* and *EDI Journal*.

Thank you to everyone who has come here today and to all the members who have supported the Board with their feedback.

Thank you for your interest and your attention.



Christian Berger
President

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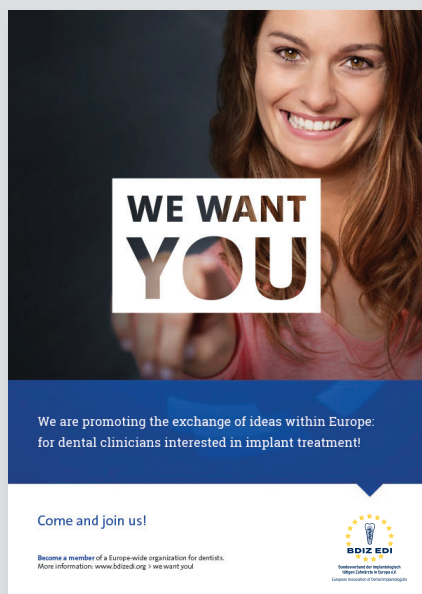


¹ Ratka C. et al. JCM. 2019;8(9):1397. ² Bosshardt DD. et al. Clin Oral Invest. 2022;26(4):3735–3746. ³ Zipprich H. et al. Clin Oral Invest. 2022;26(6):4549–4558. ⁴ Schlee. et al. JCM. 2019;8(11):1909. ⁵ Schlee M. et al. JCM. 2021;10(16):3475. ⁶ Data on file, GalvoSurge AG.

BDIZ EDI and its multifaceted work

We want YOU!

AT IDS 2025 BDIZ EDI is relaunching its “We want you” information campaign. The aim is to interest young dentists from Germany and Europe in oral implantology and in the work of BDIZ EDI.



With the “We want you” campaign, the association wants to draw attention to the many different support services it offers for all dental practices, even beyond implantology, including continuing education for newcomers to the profession and seasoned practitioners alike.

BDIZ EDI is an active Europe-wide association that in 2002 went beyond the borders of Germany to forge collaborations, support partner associations and make its voice heard in EU politics. Of course, health policy interventions are also initiated at the federal level. BDIZ EDI is the only association to have presented its own draft law on combating corruption in the health sector. It is currently working intensively on the Medical Device Regulation (MDR) and its many problems.

With its information offensive, BDIZ EDI is highlighting its work in the field of continuing education:

- “Meet the Experts” allows newcomers to get in touch with experienced implantologists and top lecturers.
- An absolute must for anyone interested in implantology is the Curriculum Implantology, which is run in cooperation with the University of Cologne and recently started in the south of Germany. This eight-module course teaches the key building blocks of implant dentistry to small groups of participants. The curriculum takes place at the University of Cologne. It runs for one year and is designed to be affordable for newcomers to the profession. Some partner associations have adopted, and adapted,

the modules for their countries: Greece, Serbia, Poland and India.

- Each year, the BDIZ EDI Expert Symposium provides an update on a current issue in implant dentistry, and the associated European Consensus Conference (EuCC) provides guidance for practitioners.
- The Europe Symposium of BDIZ EDI provides an opportunity to look beyond the local dental fence and to appreciate the work of European colleagues and exchange ideas. This year’s Europe Symposium took place in Split/Croatia. Next will be in Stockholm.

A wide field

The full scope of BDIZ EDI’s work is illustrated by the “BDIZ EDI informs” webinar series, which the association has been organising since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The continuing-education webinars feature top-notch presenters and cover dental topics (not just implantology!) as well as legal issues. The webinars are particularly suitable for strategic practice orientation for current and future practice owners. BDIZ EDI webinars are aimed at dentists and all members of the dental team. Participation is free of charge for members. On average, BDIZ EDI webinars are attended by between 150 and 400 participants. Members can view the recorded webinars in the seminar archive after the live broadcast.

AWU



European Association of Dental Implantologists

Bundesverband der implantologisch
tätigen Zahnärzte in Europa e.V.

20th EXPERT SYMPOSIUM OF BDIZ EDI

ALL ABOUT COMPLICATIONS IN IMPLANTOLOGY

We
celebrate
our 20th
anniversary with
modernized
concept

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Sunday

MARCH 02nd, 2025

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