



# EFP

European Federation  
of Periodontology



PRESS RELEASE

## EFP CELEBRATES ITS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN VIENNA

# Anton Sculean becomes EFP president and focuses on gum health for over-60s, EuroPerio9 and Gum Health Day 2018

- The European Federation of Periodontology (EFP) holds its general assembly in Vienna, attended by more than 75 leading experts from 30 national periodontal societies
- Anton Sculean succeeds Gernot Wimmer as EFP president, launches the new project ‘Oral health and wellbeing in the over-60s’, and announces European Gum Health Day on May 12 under the slogan “Health begins with healthy gums”

**Brussels, 28 March 2018.** Raising awareness of the importance of keeping healthy gums throughout a whole lifetime, particularly among people aged over 60, is one of the new priorities of the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP, [www.efp.org](http://www.efp.org)), the leading global organisation on periodontal science and practice. Other aims include strengthening the leadership of the EFP around the world and promoting the status of periodontology among dentists and other health professionals

More than 75 experts and officers from 30 national scientific societies specialising in periodontal health and implant dentistry gathered in Vienna, Austria on 17 March to celebrate the EFP’s annual general assembly and to discuss future projects. Highlights of the meeting included the appointment of Anton Sculean as new EFP president, the launch of the EFP mobile app, the international dissemination of the Perio & Caries project, and reports on the final preparations for European Gum Health Day 2018 in May and the EuroPerio9 congress in June.

Anton Sculean, professor and chair of the department of periodontology and executive director of the School of Dental Medicine at the University of Bern, Switzerland, takes over the helm as EFP president from Gernot Wimmer, professor at the Medizinische Universität Graz, Austria. Other major appointments by the assembly included Lior Shapira (Israel) as new executive-committee officer and co-ordinator of European Gum Health 2019, and Filippo Graziani (Italy) as president-elect. In addition, Nicola West (UK) and Monique Danser (the Netherlands) will join the EFP’s executive committee in 2019 as secretary general and treasurer respectively.

The EFP's general assembly also included the official announcement of European Gum Health Day 2018, to be celebrated on May 12 to raise public awareness across Europe of the importance of keeping gums healthy throughout life. "Health begins with healthy gums" is the slogan chosen by the EFP to remind authorities and the public that gum health is an achievable and cost-effective way to improve general health, public health, and citizens' quality of life.

By joining European Gum Health Day 2018, more than 25 national societies of periodontology are organising at the national level a wide range of public events, conferences, communication projects, periodontal check-ups, and other activities, under the co-ordination of Xavier Struillou, who is making sure that their messages are aligned.

### **EuroPerio9 – the world-leading congress**

Participants of the Vienna general assembly were informed of the latest preparations for EuroPerio9, which will take place in Amsterdam between 20 and 23 June and is widely regarded as the world's leading congress in periodontology and implant dentistry. Registration for EuroPerio9 is open and attracting numerous delegates, journalists, and companies. The recently-finished scientific programme features innovative session formats and more than 100 presentations will be delivered by world-class speakers, supported by a record number of more than 1,700 abstracts which will be presented via oral presentations, poster discussions and e-posters.

Furthermore, the EFP officially launched the phase of international dissemination of its project Perio & Caries, supported by Colgate, which allows all EFP-affiliated societies to take advantage of a wide array of scientific and educational content, including brochures, reports, infographics, videos, and other material.

The Perio & Caries awareness project builds on the knowledge extracted from Perio Workshop 2016, the top-level scientific conference organised by the EFP jointly with ORCA (European Organisation for Caries Research) in November 2016 in La Granja, Spain. EFP-affiliated societies are offered all Perio & Caries publications for free and encouraged to disseminate, edit, or translate them if they wish. This process has proved successful with a similar initiative previously developed by the EFP – the Oral Health & Pregnancy project, supported by Oral-B, which is now being disseminated by 20 national member societies in their respective languages and countries.

### **EFP Research Prizes in Periodontology**

The first prize of the EFP Research Prize in Periodontology was awarded to the study "At least three phenotypes exist among periodontitis patients" authored by Chryssa Delatola, Bruno Loos, Evgeni Levin, and Marja Laine<sup>1</sup> from the Netherlands. The second prize was given to research on "Reduced platelet hyper-reactivity and platelet-leukocyte aggregation after periodontal therapy," a paper written by Efthymios Arvanitidis, Sergio Bizarro, Elena Álvarez Rodríguez, Bruno Loos, and Elena Nicu,<sup>2</sup> also from the Netherlands. The third prize went to the study "Oral health in relation to all-cause mortality: a IPC cohort study" by

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<sup>1</sup> "At least three phenotypes exist among periodontitis patients", by Chryssa Delatola et al from the Department of Periodontology, Academic Center for Dentistry Amsterdam (ACTA), Netherlands. Published in *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* 2017; 44: 1068-1074.

<sup>2</sup> "Reduced platelet hyper-reactivity and platelet-leukocyte aggregation after Periodontal therapy", by Efthymios Arvanitidis et al, from the Department of Periodontology, Academic Center for Dentistry Amsterdam (ACTA), Netherlands. Published in *Thrombosis Journal* (2017) 15:5.

Margaux Adolph, Christelle Darnaud, Frédérique Thomas, Bruno Pannier, Nicolas Danchin, David Batty, and Philippe Bouchard,<sup>3</sup> from France.

Concerning personal recognition, Jan Wennström received the EFP Distinguished Scientist Award, and Stefan Renvert got the EFP Distinguished Service Award.

### **‘Strengthening the message’**

“As the EFP reinforces its leadership and its role as the world benchmark in gum health and gum disease, it is time for us to strengthen the message that gum health brings not only oral health but also overall health, wellbeing and quality of life throughout a whole lifetime, and particularly among the population aged over 60,” highlights new EFP president Anton Sculean. “I am deeply happy and honoured to lead this exciting time for the EFP and for periodontology in Europe, as we’ll keep working on promoting its acknowledgement as a recognised dental speciality in all EFP countries, and on turning it into an area of interest for dentists, dental students and patients across Europe.”

“I am proud that this 2018 general assembly has brought together here in Vienna many of the most brilliant periodontal scientists, clinicians and teachers in the world, to review progress made over the last year and to prepare future action with the aim of tackling the hidden epidemic of gum disease,” adds the EFP’s outgoing president Gernot Wimmer. “Now I’m ready to continue to contribute to the success of exciting forthcoming EFP projects, starting with EuroPerio9 next June.”

Other major outcomes of the Vienna general assembly were: the launch of the EFP mobile app for accessing key EFP content via smartphones and tablets; recognition of the Lithuanian perio society as a full-member society; and the decision to hold Perio Master Clinic 2019 in Hong Kong next year.

### **EFP, the global benchmark in periodontology**

The European Federation of Periodontology ([www.efp.org](http://www.efp.org)) is the driving force behind EuroPerio – the world’s leading congress in periodontology and implant dentistry – and Perio Workshop, a world-leading meeting on periodontal science. It is an umbrella non-profit organisation that brings together 30 national scientific societies of periodontology in Europe, northern Africa, and the Middle East, which together comprise about 14,000 specialist dentists, researchers, and other members of the dental team focused on improving periodontal science and practice. The EFP also edits the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*, one of the most authoritative scientific publications in this field.

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<sup>3</sup> “Oral health in relation to all-cause mortality: the IPC cohort study”, by Margaux Adolph et al, from the Department of Periodontology, Service of Odontology, Rothschild Hospital, AP-HP, Paris 7-Denis Diderot University, U.F.R. of Odontology, Paris. Published in *Scientific Reports* 7: 44504, March 2017.