Full steam ahead for Perio Master Clinic 2017

Preparations for the EFP Perio Master Clinic 2017 in Malta are gathering pace and two-thirds of the 600 places at the limited-attendance event have already been sold. The EFP Perio Master Clinic, which takes place on March 3 and 4, 2017 in the Maltese capital of Valletta, will focus on peri-implantitis, from aetiology to treatment. Subjects covered by the scientific programme, include: how to treat peri-implantitis, when to treat and when to remove implants, how to handle aesthetic complications such as implant surface exposure, and how to minimise problems with dental implants.

Perio Workshop 2016 brings together European experts on links between caries and periodontal diseases

European experts from two areas of dentistry came together on November 6 to 9 for the EFP Perio Workshop 2016, which focused on the relationship between caries and periodontal diseases. Organised by the EFP in partnership with the European Organisation for Caries Research (ORCA), the workshop – “The Boundaries between Caries and Periodontal Diseases” – involved 75 invited experts from the two organisations. During the workshop, four working groups reviewed the available evidence on the common links between these important oral conditions, giving special emphasis to the associated causes and risk factors and exploring how disease can be prevented.

Sponsored by Colgate, the workshop took place in La Granja de San Ildefonso, near Segovia in Spain. The conclusions of the workshop will later be published in a special open-access supplement of the EFP’s Journal of Clinical Periodontology.

Executive committee puts forward new five-year strategic plan

The EFP’s executive committee met in Lisbon in October to discuss a new strategic plan, covering 2017 to 2021, which will be presented to the next General Assembly in Santiago de Compostela (Spain) in April next year. The plan covers five areas – science and research, policy and influence, improving health and well-being, education and training, communication and awareness – each of which will be overseen by an individual member of the executive committee.

The meeting also discussed plans for next year’s European Gum Health Day, reviewed progress of EuroPerio9 and the Perio Master Clinic 2017, and chose Copenhagen as the host city for EuroPerio10 in 2021.

The European Day of Periodontology 2016 on May 12 proved to be a great success, with a wide range of activities carried out across Europe organised by the EFP and its affiliated societies, under the slogan “Healthy gums for a better life.” Twenty-one of the 29 EFP-affiliated national perio societies organised public-awareness activities, offered free periodontal screenings, and generated plenty of media coverage, thereby spreading the message about periodontal health to a wide pan-European audience. Plans are already under way for celebrating European Gum Health Day 2017 next May 12.
EFP executive committee adopts new strategic plan which will be put to 2017 General Assembly in Santiago

The EFP’s executive committee met in Lisbon in October to review progress across many areas, including the organising of Perio Master Clinic 2017 and EuroPerio9 in 2018, and to discuss a new strategic plan for 2017-2021. The plan, which will be presented to the EFP’s next General Assembly in Santiago de Compostela (Spain) on April 1, 2017, has five focus areas, each of which will be overseen by an individual member of the executive committee as part of a professional implementation plan.

The five areas are:
- Science and research (Anton Sculean);
- Policy and influence (Søren Jepsen);
- Improving health and well-being (Gernot Wimmer);
- Education and training (Juan Blanco);
- Communication and awareness (Filippo Graziani).

The EFP Strategic Plan 2017-2021 envisages the creation of the European Observatory on Periodontology and Implant Dentistry, which, if agreed by the General Assembly, will provide a new resource that will boost the EFP’s efforts in communication and lend additional scientific weight to communications of scientific relevance.

EFP appoints Sharon Legendre as head of operations

Sharon Legendre joined the EFP in May in the newly created role of head of operations to support the work of the executive committee. Legendre, who speaks four languages (English, French, Spanish, and German), previously worked for the Spanish Society of Cardiology for 10 years as its director of institutional affairs.

“Sharon is a vital appointment and her CV is a perfect fit: fluent in English, French and Spanish, she can work with the entire executive group and she will form a proactive glue between our various committees and external partners,” said EFP secretary general Iain Chapple.

Delphi study predicts rise in diseases related to dental implants

Experts in periodontology expect the prevalence of periodontitis in Europe to stabilise in the next decade while implant-related diseases will increase, despite expected improvements in surgical techniques and the quality of implants. These are among the findings of the EFP Delphi Study on the trends in Periodontology and Periodontics in Europe for the year 2025 published in the June issue of the Journal of Clinical Periodontology. The study assessed the responses of 113 experts to a questionnaire on trends in the sector.

The experts surveyed also foresees increased demand for postgraduate training in both periodontology and implantology.

Oral Hygiene after Mucogingival Surgery

Perio Workshop 2016 probed the interactions and boundaries between caries and periodontal diseases

The evidence was considered by four working groups. Working Group 1 (chaired by Mariano Sanz from the EFP and David Beighton from ORCA) examined the role of microbial biofilms in the maintenance of oral health and the development of dental caries and periodontal diseases.

Working Group 2 (whose chairs were Iain Chapple from the EFP and Andreas Schulte from ORCA) investigated the interaction of lifestyle, behaviour or systemic diseases with oral health, dental caries and periodontal diseases.

The subject tackled by Working Group 3 (chaired by Søren Jepsen from the EFP and Vita Machiuškiene from ORCA) was the prevention and control of dental caries and periodontal diseases at the individual and the population level.

Working Group 4 (chaired by the EFP’s Maurizio Tonetti and ORCA’s Sebastian Paris) considered age-related effects on oral health, dental caries, and periodontal diseases.

“Caries and periodontal diseases have always been considered as very separate entities but recent evidence clearly points to several mechanisms and factors shared by both,” said Mariano Sanz, chairman of the EFP Perio Workshop. “This has been a fantastic opportunity to bring together the cultures of scientists working on the tooth and those of us who work on the periodontal tissues.”

The conclusions of the Perio Workshop 2016 will later be published in a special open-access supplement of the EFP’s Journal of Clinical Periodontology.

EFP and AAP discuss plans for organising 2017 World Perio Workshop

A n EFP delegation received a very warm welcome at a meeting with the leadership of the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) to discuss preparations for 2017’s World Perio Workshop on Periodontal and Peri-Implant Disease Classification.

The meeting considered the latest plans for this important workshop, to be held in Chicago in November 2017, and provided information about the event to potential sponsors. Three-quarters of the budget has already been covered by educational grants, including one from the AAP Foundation.

The meeting, which took place in September in San Diego, California, during the AAP’s annual congress, heard that the work of the committee and the logistics of the event are well on schedule.

Invited review authors have now uploaded their papers for peer review. Leading experts from all over the world are being invited to attend as participants in the workshop’s four working groups. The EFP was represented by Søren Jepsen, immediate past president of the federation, and by Sharon Legendre, head of operations. AAP representatives included president Terry Griffin, president-elect Steve Daniel, members of the workshop’s scientific committee, and former presidents Joan Otomo-Corgel and Wayne Aldredge. They were joined by AAP executive directors and managers, members of the AAP Foundation and several review authors from the United States.

“The joint AAP/EFP World Perio Workshop will have a major global impact for years to come,” said Prof Jepsen.
European Day of Periodontology 2016 - a great success in boosting awareness of gum health in 21 countries

Across Europe, national perio societies organised a wide range of activities on May 12 to mark the EFP-promoted European Day of Periodontology. The day proved a great success, with 21 EFP-affiliated national societies taking part (plus the non-EFP member the Azerbaijan Society of Periodontology). Initiatives included TV and radio interviews, awareness actions in public spaces, perio-inspired health platforms, and free periodontal screenings in dental surgeries.

This year’s slogan was “Healthy gums for a better life” as the EFP sought to raise public awareness of gum disease and its links with other diseases such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease. A wealth of media coverage was generated by the activities organised across Europe. There were television and radio interviews, plus articles in national, local and specialist press. In addition, there was much direct communication with the public via publicity material and social media, with many national societies taking advantage of communications materials created by the EFP. This was the third time that the EFP has celebrated May 12 as a day to raise awareness of gum disease and gum health across Europe. This year’s activities were much more ambitious and numerous than those of 2014 and 2015. And even more ambitious plans are now being drawn up for May 12 next year and the EFP is working with the national societies to design and co-ordinate activities.

Brave new initiative

“The European Day of Periodontology is a brave new initiative for us in the EFP,” said Tiernan O’Brien, chairman of the EFP’s communications committee. “This project is a great example of the positive influence the EFP can have on dental health in Europe, and I am so happy that the mission to let Europe know about periodontal health has been enthusiastically embraced by so many of our national periodontal societies.” The European Day of Periodontology is a brave new initiative for us in the EFP, said Tiernan O’Brien, chairman of the EFP’s communications committee. “This project is a great example of the positive influence the EFP can have on dental health in Europe, and I am so happy that the mission to let Europe know about periodontal health has been enthusiastically embraced by so many of our national periodontal societies.” The European Day of Periodontology is a brave new initiative for us in the EFP, said Tiernan O’Brien, chairman of the EFP’s communications committee. “This project is a great example of the positive influence the EFP can have on dental health in Europe, and I am so happy that the mission to let Europe know about periodontal health has been enthusiastically embraced by so many of our national periodontal societies.” The European Day of Periodontology is a brave new initiative for us in the EFP, said Tiernan O’Brien, chairman of the EFP’s communications committee. “This project is a great example of the positive influence the EFP can have on dental health in Europe, and I am so happy that the mission to let Europe know about periodontal health has been enthusiastically embraced by so many of our national periodontal societies.” The European Day of Periodontology is a brave new initiative for us in the EFP, said Tiernan O’Brien, chairman of the EFP’s communications committee. “This project is a great example of the positive influence the EFP can have on dental health in Europe, and I am so happy that the mission to let Europe know about periodontal health has been enthusiastically embraced by so many of our national periodontal societies.”

National perio societies hold wide range of events to spread knowledge and understanding

Recent activities organised by the 29 national perio societies that make up the European Federation of Periodontology include:

The Czech perio society held a two-day congress in Brno (May 27-28), which brought together 140 periodontists and dentists. The keynote lecture, on guided bone regeneration, was given by Austrian periodontist Dr Daniel Hess.

The Dutch perio society (NVvP) spread the message about the links between oral and general health by contributing to a special oral-health issue of Media Planet.

The French perio society (SFPIO) focused on the patient at its annual scientific congress (June 2-4), under the title “The periodontal patient: convergence of therapies.”

The Finnish perio society held a one-day seminar on peri-implant diseases in Helsinki on October 7 given by Prof Björn Klinge from Malmö University.

The German perio society (DG PARO) held its annual meeting in Würzburg (September 15-17) under the title ‘Periodontology in Focus’. The event was attended by a record about 1,000 people. DG Paro is also inviting applications for its annual €5,000 prize for research on implant therapy. Details on the DG Paro website.

The Hellenic perio society’s 12th Symposium of Periodontology (May 20-22) was devoted to the subject “From the treatment of periodontal disease to the treatment of the periodontal patient.”

The Irish perio society hosted its annual scientific conference in Dublin on October 8, at which the guest speaker was Prof Mariano Sanz, who discussed periodontal regeneration.

The semi-annual meeting of the Israeli perio society took place in the Avenue Convention Center, near Tel Aviv, on September 15, under the title “Small steps – big success,” with more than 250 participants.

The Romanian perio society held its eleventh national conference in Bucharest on October 7, focusing on “periodontal medicine integrated in current daily practice,” with a keynote presentation from Prof Francis Hughes.

The Russian perio society held a Day of Periodontology in Moscow on June 17, highlighting the links between periodontitis and systemic diseases such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease.
The European Day of Periodontology was hailed as a “huge success” by EFP president Juan Blanco, who praised the involvement of most of the federation’s national perio societies.

“The majority of national societies were involved in the action, which is huge success for our main objectives and a clear boost to our federation,” said Prof Blanco. The message of “healthy gums for a better life” was chosen to highlight the links between periodontal health and general health. “The intrinsic idea is that periodontal health is not only a local problem but also a systemic one,” said Blanco, adding that by taking care of gum health, improvements can be achieved in general health and public health. “This is a very important message not only for the dental community but also for patients. The media can benefit from the EFP’s scientific knowledge and help us to communicate our key messages.”

Prof Iain Chapple, EFP secretary general, added: “Periodontitis is the most prevalent human disease and, in its most severe form, the sixth most common disease, yet a significant majority of the public have no idea what perio is, what its consequences are, and what to do about it – that is our fault as a profession.

Engagement and innovation

“May 12 was the day we started to do something about that, and the engagement and innovation of national societies was fantastic. More will follow very soon and I urge all oral-health professionals to get these messages out there through social media – help us to educate the public.” In an introduction to the official EFP report on the event, Juan Blanco and Søren Jepsen, his predecessor as EFP president, said that the European Day of Periodontology 2016 had been a “milestone in the EFPs history” that had succeeded in conveying a powerful, coherent message for raising awareness and igniting a public debate around gum health and gum disease.”
Perio Master Clinic 2017 puts the spotlight on peri-implantitis

Preparations for the EFP Perio Master Clinic 2017 in Malta are gathering pace and two-thirds of the places at the limited-attendance event have already been sold. There is a maximum of 600 participants for this meeting whose focus is peri-implantitis, from aetiology to treatment. Registration is handled on a “first come, first served” basis. The aim of Perio Master Clinic is to bring together clinicians who wish to take their clinical practice to the highest levels of excellence. Presentations will be given by world-leading scientists and clinicians. “In this unique setting, you will have the chance to listen to and discuss with world-renowned master clinicians on diagnosis, prevention and treatment of peri-implant diseases,” says Korkud Demirel, chairman of the organising committee.

Subjects covered by the scientific programme, put together by the event’s scientific chairman Stefan Renvert, include: how to treat peri-implantitis, when to treat and when to remove implants, how to handle aesthetic complications such as implant surface exposure, and how to minimise problems with dental implants.

The EFP Perio Master Clinic, which takes place on March 3 and 4, 2017 in the Maltese capital of Valletta, is the second event of its kind, following the pioneering first Perio Master Clinic in Paris in February 2014. Unlike the Paris event, this time there will also be an exhibition to provide participants with the opportunity to meet the industry and see the latest products.

“Many participants in the previous meeting, in Paris, expressed the need for an exhibition to complete the circle,” said Demirel, who added: “Malta with its moderate and mild climate will be a perfect escape from the tiring winter days.”

Innovation in scheduling

After registering, participants are invited to give their feedback on the type of questions they find most interesting. This information will be sent to the experts who will speak the event so that they can tailor their presentations to the needs of their audience.

For each Perio Master Clinic session, five specific questions are listed and registered participants are invited to indicate their first and second choices from this list.

For instance, for the session entitled “Treatment plan for advanced peri-implantitis cases,” the most popular question so far is: “What is a ‘hopeless’ implant that needs to be extracted and what is a ‘questionable’ one that one might try to maintain? What are the criteria for decision?”

The second most popular question selected by participants is: “If aiming to treat advanced cases, what would be best surgical procedure: pocket reduction or elimination, open-flap debridement, or other procedures (soft-tissue grafting, bone augmentation, etc.)?”

Historic hospital in Malta hosts Perio Master Clinic 2017

The EFP Perio Master Clinic, on March 3 and 4, 2017 in the Maltese capital of Valletta, will be held at the Mediterranean Conference Centre, located at the edge of the city next to Fort St. Elmo and overlooking the Grand Harbour.

The conference centre is a sixteenth-century building that was formerly the Sacra Infermeria hospital of the Order of St. John (known as the Knights of Malta). It offers a quiet environment with all the benefits of modern technology.

Delegates can register for the Perio Master Clinic 2017 via the EFP website. EFP members pay €450 while the fee for non-members is €590.

The registration fee includes participation in the congress programme, congress materials, attendance at the welcome reception on Friday, March 3, and admission to the industry exhibition.
The EFP website (www.efp.org) was relaunched in the spring with more content, extra functionality, and a more modern look designed to optimise viewing on mobile telephones and tablets. The redesigned www.efp.org is easier to navigate and is more clearly separated into areas for professionals and patients. The latest news is easier to read, with the four top stories appearing on the front page and news arranged by categories such as science, events, education, and news from the 29 EFP-affiliated national societies. The new website will help strengthen the federation’s role as a world-leading provider of news, scientific knowledge, and insight on periodontal science and clinical practice.

Great impact in social media
This role is strengthened by the EFP’s activity in social media, where the number of subscribers to the EFP’s Facebook page has now passed 5,000, with an average of 250 new subscribers each month. The EFP can also be followed via Twitter and LinkedIn. Nearly 400 people now subscribe to the EFP’s video channel on YouTube, which offers a selection of videos about gum health and other periodontal issues of interest to the whole dental team. A new video section on the EFP website – Perio Video – has been launched, which groups together videos produced by the EFP and its member societies. Videos here include many about gum health, along with the documentary The Sound of Periodontitis, a section for institutional clips, another for EFP-organised events, and the EFP interviews with the pioneers of European perio.

The dissemination of the EFP-funded video The Sound of Periodontitis has been boosted by subtitled versions in Croatian, Estonian, French, Polish, Russian, and Spanish.

Debate, analysis and more
Perio Insight, the new section of the website dedicated to debate, analysis and in-depth interviews has continued to expand since its launch in April and is now also being published in magazine (pdf) format three times a year.

The JCP Digest, which offers summaries of research published in the EFP’s prestigious Journal of Clinical Periodontology, is now available (see below) in six European languages (English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish).

Finally, the Executive Committee decided at its October meeting to rename the External Affairs Committee as the Communications Committee to better reflect its work.

New series of JCP Digest begins, offering concise perio research in six different languages
The first issues of a new series of the EFP’s research summary the JCP Digest have been published and are available for viewing and downloading at the EFP website. Each issue summarises research published during 2016 in Volume 43 of the EFP’s prestigious research publication the Journal of Clinical Periodontology. The first edition of the new series, JCP Digest 01 (2016:43), offers a concise account of a study of the presence of the JP2 clone of the bacterium Aggregatibacter Actinomycetemcomitans (Aa.) among Moroccan children. The following issue, JCP Digest 02 (2016), summarises research carried out at the University of Birmingham which showed that periodontitis in patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) was associated with a higher risk of mortality than having the disease without periodontitis. The JCP Digest, which was launched in 2014, offers concise periodontal research to enable clinicians to keep their knowledge up to date, summarising studies from the Journal of Clinical Periodontology, the official scientific journal of the EFP which is ranked as one of the top dental journals, according to impact factor. It is edited by Prof Phoebus Madianos and Prof Lior Shapira (chair and deputy chair of the EFP’s scientific advisory committee), with the co-operation of JCP editor-in-chief Prof Maurizio Tonetti. Each edition – published in English, in French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish – is put together by rapporteurs from EFP-accredited postgraduate periodontology courses, working under expert supervision.
EFP will hold joint workshop with International Diabetes Federation

The EFP is preparing a special joint workshop with the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) that will explore the links between periodontal disease and diabetes. The workshop, organised in partnership with Sunstar, will take place on February 19 and 20 at the recently opened SEPA Centre for Gum Health in Madrid (see below), next to the headquarters of the Spanish perio society. There will be a total of 14 participants, seven diabetes experts from the IDF. They are now gathering the evidence that will be reviewed at the workshop. Mariano Sanz, the chairman of the EFP Perio Workshop, is co-ordinating everything from the EFP side, while the IDF co-ordinator is Dr Antonio Ceriello. Workshop is co-ordinating everything from the EFP and seven diabetes experts from the IDF. They are now gathering the evidence that will be reviewed at the workshop.

Mariano Sanz receives honorary doctorate from University of Coimbra in Portugal

Mariano Sanz, chairman of the EFP Perio Workshop, has been awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Coimbra in Portugal, one of the oldest universities in the world. Prof Sanz, a world-renowned expert in his field, received the degree at a ceremony at the university on October 23.

"The truth is that one does not work all these years thinking about receiving prizes and distinctions, but it is very pleasing when your peers in various parts of the world recognise your career," he said.

Spanish perio society opens innovative training and outreach centre

The Spanish perio society SEPA has launched a pioneering centre for gum health, as it seeks to spread the message of “periodontology for everyone” through encouraging the prevention of gum diseases and other systemic illnesses linked to oral health. The Casa de las Encias (SEPA Centre for Gum Health) was formally opened on October 24 at a ceremony attended by EFP president Juan Blanco (pictured), as well as leading figures from Spanish regional government, from the Madrid health ministry, from the Madrid healthcare and politics. These included officials from Spain’s health ministry, from the Madrid regional government, and from the city council.

EFP Manifesto

In addition, the EFP Manifesto “Perio and General Health” is the first formal declaration in international dentistry to condense years of research into the links between periodontal disease and systemic illnesses into an acknowledgement of periodontitis as a major public-health issue. It is a call to action in terms of prevention, early detection, and treatment of periodontitis. The EFP encourages all dental-health professionals, as well as members of the wider medical community, to sign the EFP Manifesto.

EFP associate member societies

- Austria Österreichische Gesellschaft für Parodontologie
- Belgium Société Belge de Parodontologie / Belgische Vereniging voor Parodontologie
- Croatia Hrvatsko Parodontološko Društvo
- Czech Republic Česká Parodontologická Společnost
- Denmark Dansk Parodontologisk Selskab
- Finland Suomen Hammaslääkärikesku
- Apollonia
- France Société Française de Parodontologie et d’Implantologie Orale
- Germany Deutsche Gesellschaft für Parodontologie
- Greece Ελληνική Περιοδοντολογική Εταιρεία
- Hungary Magyar Parodontológiai Társaság
- Ireland Irish Society of Periodontology
- Israel Israeli Society of Periodontology and Osseointegration
- Italy Società Italiana di Parodontologia e Implantologia
- Netherlands Nederlandse Vereniging voor Parodontologie
- Norway Norsk periodontist forening
- Poland Polskie Towarzystwo Periodontologiczne
- Portugal Sociedade Portuguesa de Periodontologia e Implantologia
- Serbia Udruženje Parodontologa Srbije
- Slovenia Zdržuanje za ustne bolezni, parodontologijo in stomatološko implantologijo
- Spain Sociedad Española de Periodoncia y Osteointegración
- Sweden Svenska Parodontolog föreningen
- Switzerland Société Suisse de Parodontologie / Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Parodontologie / Società Svizzera di Parodontologia
- Turkey Türk Periodontoloji Derneği
- United Kingdom British Society of Periodontology