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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Perio Master Clinic 2020 unveiled latest insights in periodontal regeneration, the ‘holy grail’ of dentistry

#### Management of flap design, the correct procedures for single- and multiple-tooth gingival recessions, techniques for lateral and vertical bone augmentation, and the choice of the optimal bone graft were the main topics discussed

#### Organised by the EFP, Perio Master Clinic provides dental clinicians with in-depth overview of the latest techniques in a key clinical topic in periodontology

**Brussels, 11 March 2020**. The Perio Master Clinic 2020 conference was held on 6-7 March at the Royal Dublin Society in Dublin with the aim of unveiling the latest advances made in periodontal regeneration, which is widely seen as the “holy grail” in periodontal and peri-implant therapy as it is the key in helping to preserve the dentition healthy and functional for the patient’s whole lifetime.

Organised by the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP), Perio Master Clinic 2020 brought together world experts in this field to share with dental clinicians their latest techniques to tackle aesthetic regeneration, an area that represents the ultimate challenge for dentists and periodontists.

“This was the only major international conference of its kind this year that provided a complete overview of the latest in regenerative procedures,” highlights Declan Corcoran, chair of Perio Master Clinic 2020.

Among the practical questions Perio Master Clinic 2020 addressed were how to deal with single- and multiple-tooth gingival recessions, which type of bone graft is preferable, how to choose the optimal flap design and suturing technique, and how to execute the techniques involved in lateral and vertical bone augmentation.

“Today we are pretty successful in restoring gingival tissue around teeth but to become equally successful in winning back alveolar bone support for the teeth is another story. We are witnessing great improvements in surgical techniques and there are significant developments in biologics and, down the line, in stem-cell research – all of which will help us to regenerate the bone and gingivae in the oral cavity in order to improve oral health and the quality of life for our patients.” Dr Corcoran adds.

**Predictable tissue regeneration is possible**

“As life expectancy is extended, our patients need to maintain their masticatory function and aesthetics for a longer period of time,” explains Anton Sculean, scientific chair of Perio Master Clinic 2020. “Thus, tooth maintenance becomes extremely important not only to ensure function and aesthetics, but also to minimise the costs related to the extensive reconstructions that are necessary in the event of loss of teeth and associated hard and soft tissues.”

“Advances in translational and clinical research mean that we now have the possibility to retain teeth which only some years ago would have been deemed non-maintainable,” Prof Sculean notes. “Today we have at our disposal the biologic understanding, the surgical techniques, and the biomaterials that can lead to predictable regeneration – in some cases complete regeneration, the so-called *restitutio ad integrum* or healing of soft and hard tissues around teeth and implants that were previously lost because of periodontitis or peri-implantitis,“ he says. “Not so long ago, such results were not even contemplated. A thorough diagnosis, an appropriate treatment plan, and the attainment of proper surgical skills are the essential elements needed to make this a reality.”

#### Prof Sculean notes that clinicians already have the knowledge and skills to predictably treat periodontitis and to arrest its progression. But “complete reversal of the damage caused by periodontitis is only possible in certain well-defined situations and it is essential for the clinician to understand in which cases these regenerative procedures can be successfully performed and how.”

**EFP, global benchmark in periodontology**

The European Federation of Periodontology (EFP) is a non-profit organisation dedicated to promoting awareness of periodontal science and the importance of gum health. Its guiding vision is “periodontal health for a better life.”

Founded in 1991, the EFP is a federation of 37 national periodontal societies that represents more than 16,000 periodontists, dentists, researchers and oral-health professionals from Europe and around the world. It supports evidence-based science in periodontal and oral health and it promotes events and campaigns aimed at both professionals and the public.

The EFP organises EuroPerio, the world’s leading congress in periodontology and implant dentistry, as well as other important professional and expert events such as Perio Master Clinic and Perio Workshop. The annual Gum Health Day on May 12, organised by the EFP and its member societies, brings key messages on gum health to millions of people across the world.

The EFP also organises workshops and outreach campaigns with its partners: projects to date have covered the relationship between periodontal disease and diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and caries, as well as women’s oral health during pregnancy..

The EFP’s *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* is the most authoritative scientific publication in this field. The federation also publishes *JCP Digest*, a monthly digest of research, and the quarterly *Perio Insight* magazine, which features experts' views and debates. The EFP’s work in education is also highly significant, notably its accreditation programme for postgraduate education in periodontology and implant dentistry.

The EFP has no professional or commercial agenda.

**ENDS**

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