EuroPerio8 - early booking record sets up biggest ever congress

A record-breaking 6,304 participants had registered for EuroPerio8 by the early-booking deadline of March 6. This increase of 45.9% on EuroPerio7 in Vienna will make this congress the best-attended EuroPerio so far when it is held in London from June 3 to June 6. A rush of last-minute bookings saw the organising committee twice extend the “early bird” deadline to cope with demand. A total of 1,134 people registered during the week-long booking extension. Early-bird registrations for EuroPerio7 were 4,322, while total attendees at the actual conference reached 7,812. The excellent figure of 6,304 early EuroPerio8 registrations promises a packed event at the spacious ExCeL centre in East London, while an international flavour among delegates is assured with early registrations in from 94 different countries worldwide, with Brazil and Japan among the top 20 of these nations.

Workshop: new guidelines for perio prevention

The conclusions of last November’s XI European Workshop in Periodontology have brought fresh guidelines for the dental community on ways to prevent periodontitis and peri-implantitis. Full reports from the event’s more than 70 leading researchers are available online in a free, open-access supplement of the Journal of Clinical Periodontology. They cover a range of topics from the efficacy of mechanical plaque removal methods to behaviour change counselling. Workshop chairman, Mariano Sanz, said it provides “new insights and opportunities to reorganise preventive services and enhance their effectiveness in a variety of healthcare settings.” Finance came through educational grants from Procter and Gamble, and Johnson and Johnson.

4,000 subscribers following the EFP in social media

The number of oral healthcare professionals connected to EFP social media is increasing rapidly. Around 4,000 subscribers across the globe receive updates about periodontology and the EFP on a daily basis - and the figure grows every day. The EFP’s LinkedIn professional community comprises more than 2,200 periodontal practitioners, researchers, dentists, hygienists, practice owners and students. More than 1,400 members of the perio family are subscribed to the EFP Facebook page, while its Twitter page is followed by more than 240. The recently launched EFP YouTube channel has more than 125 subscribers.

Athens general assembly: Jepsen is new EFP president

The EFP executive committee meeting and general assembly in Athens on March 27 and 28 brought key decisions, among them the election of the organising committee for EuroPerio9, Amsterdam, 2018. Michèle Reners (Belgium) will chair this committee. Sören Jepsen is scientific chairman, and Gernot Wimmer is treasurer.

Sören Jepsen (Germany) was sworn in as the new EFP president, replacing Phoebus Madianos (Greece). The president-elect for 2016 is Juan Blanco (Spain). He hands over to Gernot Wimmer (Austria) in 2017. Newly appointed EFP officer Anton Sculean (Switzerland) will be president from 2018. Meanwhile, Iain Chapple (UK) will replace Stefan Renvert (Sweden) as EFP general secretary in April 2016. Tiernan O’Brien (Ireland) will chair the External Affairs Committee (EAC), replacing Edwin Winkel in April 2016. Mariano Sanz (Spain) will continue to chair the European Workshop in Periodontology (EWP) committee. The Istanbul 2017 proposal for the Master Clinic on ‘Peri-implantitis: from etiology to treatment’ was accepted. It will run in Istanbul on March 2017, chaired by Korkud Demirel (Turkey), with Stefan Renvert as scientific chairman.

Who is Sören Jepsen, new president of the EFP

Who is Phoebus Madianos, past president of the EFP

More on page 7
National societies exchange experiences and best practices

More than 20 national societies, members of the EFP, have responded to the first phase of the Federation’s Periodontal Health & Medicine Project, an initiative to boost exchange and mutual learning among European societies of periodontology. Answers to the Periodontal Health & Medicine Questionnaire have been received from the national societies of Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, and Ukraine. The answers relate, among other relevant information, valuable experiences and best practices developed at national level and apt for adaptation by fellow societies. Some of these intriguing ideas can be easily taken on by other national societies. The Irish society joined in committee with other dental societies to promote specialist training. The Hungarian society organised events focused on periodontal disease as a risk factor for chronic conditions. The Austrian society translated the EFP Manifesto into German. The Polish society held a press conference on links between periodontal disease and general health. The Hellenic society has featured these links in the scientific programmes of all its national congresses. Other actions may require more resources. The British society persuaded the British Dental Journal to give over a special issue to periodontology, and is now funding the translation into English of leaflets published by the Spanish society SEPA, following the latter’s development of an ambitious communication strategy based on a segmented audience through its online presence on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, Pinterest, Vine, YouTube and Google+. And the German society DGParo organises parliamentary evenings, where specialist speakers discuss periodontal issues with parliament members in a lobby-oriented environment. Meanwhile, several national societies have organised their own events for similar actions such as displaying the EFP Manifesto at internal and external meetings; inviting lecturers from other societies to their annual meetings to raise awareness of links to systemic diseases; promoting periodontal among students and young dentists; creating websites specially designed for patients; designing courses in periodontology for general practitioners; and mailing their members JCP Digest issues and EFP News bulletins.

Watch EFP perio-systemic videos on YouTube

Over 15,000 views and climbing at a daily rate of more than 50 new hits - this is the measure of interest on YouTube alone for the EFP’s collection of four videos on the links between periodontal disease and systemic conditions. The seven-minute “Periodontal Health” video, launched after the 9th European Workshop in Periodontology in 2012, now has nearly 8,000 views on YouTube. Like the shorter two-minute version (over 2,000 views) of this information, it has been distributed on other media and for educational purposes by individual professionals, making an accurate count of success impossible. On YouTube you can access subtitles for this film in Dutch, French, Greek, Hungarian, Polish, and Spanish, as well as the original English-language version.

The EFP’s Facebook page: videos, abstracts and more

More and more periodontal clinicians and oral-healthcare professionals are subscribing to the EFP’s official page on Facebook to receive its updates on a daily basis. About 1,400 subscribers now receive via Facebook news, messages and institutional information posted by the EFP – about 12 to 15 items every week. The EFP’s posts are most visited by subscribers from the UK, Spain, Italy, Poland and Greece, although the USA, Japan, Brazil and Mexico appear high in the ranking too. Women outnumber men (55%:45%) and the most active age group is that of 25-34 years old. A new series which highlights abstracts of scientific articles written by EuroPerio8 speakers about topics related to their presentations is proving particularly popular. Videos from the EFP’s YouTube channel, news items from the EFP website, and posts from the PerioPeople blog make up the rest of the Facebook page’s contents.

Coverage by experts will bring you current thinking on hot topics such as the peri-to-systemic issue - e.g. periodontitis and diabetes - as well as patient-based outcomes, susceptibility, systemic antimicrobials, non-surgical approaches, furcation therapy, management of advanced periodontal disease, and a comprehensive list of areas.

EuroPerio8 scientific programme is the best ever

The scientific programme organised for EuroPerio8 in London from June 3 to 6 has been designed to appeal to generalists and specialists alike. The event’s scientific chairman, Mariano Sanz, says the programme “covers the whole scope of periio”. It will be delivered in carefully classified presentations by over 100 speakers in periodontology, including keynote sessions by perio greats such as Jan Lindhe and Niklaus Lang. Lectures will cover from the current base knowledge in periodontitis to contemporary practical periodontics for the whole dental team, and right through to master clinician and periodontal specialist forums, taking in state-of-the-art surgery and practice for advanced dentists, critical factors in implant dentistry, aesthetic outcomes for implant placement, periodontal regeneration, and much more.

PerioPeople - the official EFP blog for EuroPerio8

There is no better source than the Perio People official EFP blog for detailed information about the speakers presenting at the congress. Read their views on periio, on London, on British music. Watch videos, enjoy music playlists, and read lively articles on many different aspects of EuroPerio8.
XI European Workshop in Periodontology - “Prevention rather than Repair”

Increase in peri-implantitis cases brings warning of public health issue in published Workshop conclusions

W idening guidelines on the prevention of periodontitis and peri-implantitis were issued in April by the EFP in its respected science publication, the Journal of Clinical Periodontology (JCP). These recommendations, the fruit of rigorous research culminating in the work of more than 70 top periodontal researchers at the EFP-organised XI European Workshop in Periodontology - “Effective Prevention of Periodontal and Peri-implant Diseases” - strongly reinforce the role of professionals in primary and secondary prevention, as well as instructing patients on self-performed hygiene actions. The Workshop outcomes also call for public campaigns to warn about gum bleeding as a symptom for disease, and point to statistics showing that increasing numbers of peri-implantitis cases are alarming enough to warrant consideration of this condition, which affects the tissues around dental implants, as “an emerging public health issue.”

Interdental brushing over flossing

Another major conclusion of the XI Workshop comes from a meta-analysis of studies of dental flossing which found no evidence that this form of mechanical plaque removal has efficacy in patients with gingivitis or periodontitis. Interdental brushing was found to be the most efficacious method and this is recommended in the guidelines to be found in over 20 free, open-access articles in the special supplement of the April issue of the JCP. Lifestyle factors, patient risk profiles, and the role of professionals in supporting mindset and behavioural change in patients - e.g. with regard to smoking cessation - were also an important focus for the four working groups involved in the Workshop, which was held in November 2014 in Spain with financial support from educational grants from Procter and Gamble, and Johnson and Johnson. This essential reading for all members of the dental team also includes key observations on halitosis, dentine hypersensitivity, the perceived greater effectiveness of power brush use over manual brushing, and the efficacy of certain toothpaste ingredients in reducing dentine hypersensitivity, and of mouth rinses and toothpastes in slightly lowering gum inflammation and preventing plaque accumulation when used adjunctively to mechanical brushing.

Four working groups. Four chairmen. Four clear viewpoints

Working Group 1 - Principles in prevention of periodontal diseases - was chaired by Maurizio Tonetti and emphasised encouraging behavioural change. The group’s report calls for a structured approach to tailored instruction for patients, regular removal of bacterial deposits at and below the gingival margin, managing risk factors, and setting goals to change behaviour and attitudes. Tonetti labelled the reports “of fundamental importance in reorienting the whole profession in making sure that we do things in a different way.”

Iain Chapple chaired Working Group 3 - Primary prevention of periodontitis: managing gingivitis - whose conclusions find interdental brushing effective, flossing ineffective, and stress proper instruction by professionals of mechanical plaque control. “Professional oral hygiene instruction should always underpin mechanical plaque removal,” urged Chapple. Working Group 3 - Primary prevention of peri-implantitis: Managing peri-implant mucositis - was chaired by the EFP president Sören Jepsen: “Proper diagnosis and management of peri-implant mucositis, before it converts to peri-implantitis, has to become an essential part of oral health care.”

Mariano Sanz chaired group 4 - Effect of professional mechanical plaque removal on secondary prevention of periodontitis and the complications of gingival and periodontal preventive measures - and emphasised customising prevention to patient profiles. “We need to provide specific instructions for patients who are at specific risk of developing these lesions,” said Sanz.

Communication in perio is next Workshop theme

The March general assembly meeting voted to renew the position of Mariano Sanz as chairman of the Workshop Committee for a further three years, meaning he will continue to steer these annual key science meetings held in recent years in La Granja de San Ildefonso, Segovia, Spain. The 2015 European Workshop in Periodontology will shift the focus from medical science to approaches and expertise in communication of information in perio. With the aim of selecting spokespersons for the EFP, the Workshop will take place in Madrid from November 7 to 9 and involve the executive committee, junior officers, and members of the EFP. Professor Sanz’s organisational load for Workshops will be shared by his committee members, Maurizio Tonetti, Iain Chapple, EFP president-elect Juan Blanco, and junior officer Filippo Graziani.
T he well-known Plaka area of Athens welcomed the full EFP executive committee on March 27 and 28 this spring, a gathering which welcomed a new president, Sören Jepsen, and a new president-elect, Juan Blanco Carrion. This meant that outgoing EFP figurehead Phoebus Madianos took his seat as former president alongside the general secretary, Stefan Renvert, and treasurer Jörg Meyle. Newly elected members to the executive committee are Gernot Wimmer and Anton Sculean.

In addition to swearing in a new EFP president and electing the organising committee for EuroPerio9, the committee made other key decisions (see page 1).

Both the general assembly and executive committee meetings were well attended. There were 70 participants, representing the EFP’s 29 national societies, in the general assembly on Saturday, March 28. The EFP’s recognition of excellence and endeavour in periodontology is celebrated annually with a round of prizes and awards, and the Athens event was no exception. In EFP Graduate Research Prizes, the first prize went to Sylvain Mouraret, Daniel J. Hunter, Claire Bardet, Antoine Popelut, John B. Brunski, Catherine Chausain, Philippe Bouchard, and Jill A. Heims for the paper Improving oral implant osseointegration in a murine model via Wnt signal amplification. Journal of Clinical Periodontology 2014; 41: 172-180; Dpt Periodontology, Rothschild Hospital, University of Paris. Second prize was shared between Dimitris Sokos, Nina Scheres, Ton Schoenmaker, Vincent Everts and Teun de Vries for a challenge with Porphyromonas gingivalis differentially affects the osteoclastogenesis potential of periodontal ligament fibroblasts from periodontitis patients and non-periodontitis donors. Journal of Clinical Periodontology 2014; 41: 95-103; Dpt Periodontology, ACTA, Netherlands, and Alexandra Ståhli, Dieter Bosshardt, António Sculean, and Reinhard Gruber for Emmelgaar – Regulated Gene Expression in Palatal Fibroblasts requires TGF-β Kinase Signaling, PLOS ONE. Sept 2014, Vol 9. issue 9; Dpt Periodontology, School of Dental Medicine, University of Bern. Meanwhile, the sixth EFP Awards went to: Gianfranco Carnevale (Italy) for Eminence in Perio Award; Thorkill Karring (Denmark) for Distinguished Scientist Award; and David Hilmam (UK) for Distinguished Service Award.

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New EFP president-elect Juan Blanco Carrion
The Spanish periodontology and dental implants expert Juan Blanco is the new president-elect of the EFP, and will take over from Sören Jepsen in spring 2016. Blanco is a specialist in orthognathic surgery and is Professor of Periodontology at the University of Santiago de Compostela’s School of Medicine and Dentistry in Santiago de Compostela in Spain. He is a former President of the Spanish Society of Periodontology and Osseointegration (SEPA). Dr. Blanco will speak at EuroPerio8 on the afternoon of June 4 with a presentation on “Immediate implant placement with immediate function” within the Critical Factors in Implant Dentistry section.

EFP celebrates European Perio Day in Brussels
After successfully launching European Periodontology Day on May 12, 2014, the EFP is seeking to consolidate the initiative this year with a 2nd edition. Its aim is to emphasise the importance of awareness and prevention in relation to periodontal health.

The aim of European Periodontology Day is to bring into public focus the links between periodontitis and systemic conditions by encouraging team efforts and co-operation between all healthcare professionals, policy makers, and other stakeholders. Making a better case for a bigger role for peri-odontal health means this initiative can combine with the EFP’s already-launched Manifesto on Perio and General Health.

Sören Jepsen - your EFP president until spring 2016
The EFP’s new president is Sören Jepsen, professor and chairman of the Department of Periodontology, Operative and Preventive Dentistry at the University of Bonn, Germany. Prof. Jepsen will head the Federation for one year and will represent it during a high point for the biennial periodontology conference, EuroPerio8, in London from June 3 to 6, 2015. Prof. Jepsen took office at the March 27 meeting of the EFP executive committee, where he was also elected scientific chairman of the organising committee for EuroPerio9, which will take place in 2016 in Amsterdam. A leading periodontal researcher, Jepsen has been a regular participant at the European Workshop in Periodontology, the annual research update summit held by the EFP. At the November 2014 Workshop, Jepsen chaired one of the four working groups focusing on prevention, his group specifically focusing on peri-implantitis.

Prof. Jepsen is also associate editor of the Journal of Clinical Periodontology. He takes over as EFP President from Phoebus Madianos and will be in office until spring 2016, when he will be succeeded by the new president-elect, Juan Blanco (Spain).

Iain Chapple, next EFP secretary general
Professor Iain Chapple, who was recently chosen by the EFP executive committee to become the organisation’s general secretary for spring 2016, is a well-known figure in periodontology worldwide, not only as a teacher - he is head of Periodontology within the School of Dentistry, at the UK’s University of Birmingham - and researcher - he is the author of well over 200 research papers and has chaired working groups at several European Workshops in Periodontology - but also for his institutional work. He is president of the British Society of Periodontology until Autumn 2015, and is an editorial board member of the Journal of Clinical Periodontology. Active for some years within the EFP, he is a former treasurer of the Federation.

Tiernan O’Brien is new external affairs chairman
The EFP external affairs committee will have a new chairman from spring 2016, Tiernan O’Brien, B.A., B.Dent. Sc., M.S. (Perio), will take over the position from Edwin Winkels. Dr. O’Brien was elected to the post at the March general assembly meeting in Athens. He has a long-established periodontics and implant practice in Galway, Ireland, and is a past president of the Irish Society of Periodontology. He is the creator of the the ‘PeriGreats’ section ‘EFP Interviews’ on the EFP website - www.efp.org - which has developed in recent years under Dr. O’Brien’s oversight.

Farewell to Phoebus Madianos as president
From page 1
The EFP bids a fond and grateful adieu to outgoing president Phoebus Madianos, who is succeeded by Sören Jepsen. His mantra - periodontology for all - saw him push for greater transparency and communication between the EFP and its member societies. On taking office in 2014 he declared his support for encouraging the younger generation of oral health professionals: “An example of achieving this goal is the EFP junior officer position. The aim is to increase the number of younger members exposed to the work done in committees and to allow them to gain experience in important activities, thus preparing the next generation of leaders.” As immediate past-president, Madianos, professor of Periodontology of the University of Athens, will still have an important role on the EFP executive committee.

Athens provides the historic backdrop for key EFP general assembly meeting
From left to right: David Hillam, Thorkill Karring, and Gianfranco Carnevale.

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INSTITUTIONAL
INSTITUTIONAL
On February 4 and 5, the 24th annual meeting presented some interesting periodontal cases. An interactive round-table discussion which featured a highly appreciated case: preservation of natural teeth vs crowns. “With implant-supported crowns, the current concept appears to be more cost-effective and more successful than their replacement with implant-supported crowns.”

JCP Digest now available in German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish

The EFP’s useful summaries of key recent periodontal-related studies - the JCP Digest - have now been translated into four other European languages. The translation project brings the content of the JCP Digest to oral-healthcare professionals whose mother tongue is not English, thus widening the reach of the scientific knowledge in the Journal of Clinical Periodontology (JCP).

The translators are Alexandra Stähli (German), Filippo Graziani (Italian), Ricardo Faria Almeida (Portuguese), and Ana Molina Villar (Spanish). French translations by Alexandre Sarfati are to follow soon.

Iain Chapple and Maurizio Tonetti

One relevant study per month is summarised by rapporteurs from a post-graduate periodontology course at a leading European academic centre under expert supervision. The publication is co-ordinated by Prof. Iain Chapple with the cooperation of Prof. Maurizio Tonetti, editor-in-chief of the JCP.

Download JCP Digest 11 and all previous issues

The latest issue of the JCP Digest is available to be read or downloaded from the EFP website, www.epf.org. JCP Digest 11 provides a summarised version of the scientific paper ‘Retaining or replacing molars with furcation involvement: a cost-effectiveness comparison of different strategies,’ by F. Schwendicke, C. Graetz, M. Stolpe, and C.E. Dörfer, which was published in the Journal of Clinical Periodontology. The study concludes that “retention of furcation-involved teeth appears to be more cost-effective and more successful than their replacement with implant-supported crowns.”

National society events kick off 2015 with scientific rigour

Strong scientific presentations on a broad range of periodontal issues have been offered by many national periodontal societies since the start of the year. The annual meeting of the Hellenic Society of Periodontology was held in Thessaloniki on January 30 and 31. Under the title ‘Treatment of the complex periodontal case: preservation of natural teeth vs dental implant placement,’ this 2-day seminar featured a highly appreciated interactive round-table discussion which presented some interesting perioc cases.

On February 4 and 5, the 24th annual meeting of the Israeli Society for Periodontology took place, chaired by Orly Nir Shapiro, covering modern aspects of periodontal treatment within a multidisciplinary treatment approach. An informative scientific programme of lectures, including a hands-on course on bone regeneration and a general assembly, featured at the annual meeting of SPPI (the Portuguese Society of Periodontology and Implantology) held on February 20 and 21 in Porto. The Spanish society SEPA held its 40th annual meeting between February 26 and 28 in Barcelona with a record number attendees. The event focused on “team vision.”

Members of the Italian Society of Periodontology and Implantology (SidP) gathered from March 5 to 7 in Rimini for their 17th annual international congress, with a programme entitled ‘Periodontitis: awareness, innovation, and method for the management of an epidemic.’ The congress featured a press conference to announce the findings of the XI European Workshop. The French society SFPIO explored dental implants, antibiotics, and periodontal surgery at its national congress, which took place in Lille on March 20 and 21. The 2-day event had ‘Clinical expertise’ as its theme.