The city of love as backdrop for a successful German–Italian congress

On Friday, 3 May 2019, the first edition of Giornate Veronesi was held in Verona in Italy. The city of love, where the story of Romeo and Juliet is set, served as a backdrop for the German–Italian congress on implantology and general dentistry. With over 200 participants, the two-day congress turned out to be a huge success.

Prof. Pier Francesco Nocini, Professor of Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Verona, opened the congress programme on Friday morning, comprising five lectures given at the University of Verona. In his opening lecture, Prof. Nocini discussed the possibilities of modern oral rehabilitation of the edentulous, atrophied maxilla using Zygoma implants. With the aid of impressive case studies, Nocini demonstrated how long-lasting implant-retained prosthetic reconstructions can be achieved in this borderline area of maxillofacial surgery. Dr Harald Hüskens then spoke about safe and predictable protocols for immediate implant treatment and osseous deficits. Prof. Mauro Labanca pointed out the importance of different suturing techniques in soft-tissue surgery. Dr Vincent J. Morgan presented a novel, metal-free and flexible CAD/CAM material for superstructures, which is also suitable for full prosthetics with short implants.

On Friday afternoon, the two-day training event, organised by the University of Verona and the German specialist publisher OEMUS MEDIA, resumed its programme in the congress resort VILLA QUARANTA in Valpolicella, just a few minutes outside of Verona. The live broadcast of a surgery from Switzerland on the topic “External sinus lift with a sinus implant without secondary materials” and the subsequent three-stage table clinics on 15 different dental topics on Friday were considered by many definite highlights. On Saturday, participants again experienced a scientific programme filled with high-grade lectures. Prof. Giorgio Lombardo from the Department of Periodontal Surgery at the University of Verona played a key role in organising and setting up the conference. As part of his programme for his German colleagues, he gave a lecture on the possibilities of minimally-invasive implantology using short implants. By means of numerous case studies, Lombardo discussed how short implants can also be used for the long-term treatment of extreme atrophic situations. Prof. Mauro Marincola from Rome in Italy and Prof. Mauro Labanca from Milan in Italy each showcased in their presentations that a relevant discussion about meaningful concepts in modern implantology and oral surgery mustn’t be led without Italian participation.

Their colleagues from Germany, Austria and Switzerland also contributed to the high level of further training at the congress. The presentations by Dr Karl Ulrich Volz on “Bone growing implants—bone augmentation with ceramic implants without secondary materials” and by Dr Dominik Nischwitz on “Vitamin D3 and other important micronutrients as a prerequisite of success for the osseointegration of ceramic implants” were followed by the audience with great interest. Dr Caroline Stolzer from UKE Hamburg in Germany compared the immune response of titanium implants and ceramic implants in her presentation. She emphasised the fact that there are indicators calling for the use of metal-free implant resto-
Apart from that, the lectures of Profs. Georg-H. Nentwig and Frank Palm on “Smart Repair—recontouring vestibular deficits after implantation with in situ curable biomaterial” and “New aspects in bone regeneration—is autologous transplantation still in fashion?”, respectively, highlighted different clinical approaches to the topic of active bone and soft-tissue management. Furthermore, Dr Armin Nedjat discussed direct internal sinus lifts in his lecture. In addition to the podiums concerned with oral surgery, there were numerous presentations on general dentistry. In addition, entire practice teams from Germany and Italy travelled to the congress to be able to attend the hygiene course for the dental staff. As scientific director of the congress programme on general dentistry, Prof. Nicole B. Arweiler of the University of Marburg in Germany gave two dedicated lectures. In her first lecture, she spoke about modern mechanical biofilm management, which should be thorough but also gentle. Her second lecture was then concerned with the topic “Antibacterial oral hygiene products—what, when and how”.

Profs. Ralf Smeets and Christian Gernhardt also delivered highly scientific and entertaining lectures from their respective disciplines. Prof. Smeets gave a comprehensive update on the topics “What do we know about soft tissue management? What works and what doesn’t?” and “After dental extraction—what do we do? Socket Preservation, Socket Seal Surgery, Socket Shield Technique? When do we implant?” In numerous indications, immediate implant placement is considered the method of choice in order to preserve the alveolus and the surrounding soft tissue after dental extraction. In his lecture “Endodontics versus implantology—chances of tooth preservation”, Prof. Christian Gernhardt argued that it should always be thoroughly assessed, how long endodontically striking teeth can be preserved—even if only for a few more years. A dentist should always keep an eye on the entire life of a patient and is thus advised to delay implantological measures as long as possible. Last but not least, Prof. Angelo Trödhan discussed the current state of diagnostics and digital planning possibilities and argued that modern imaging technologies, such as CBCT systems, can help avoiding pre-surgical complications.

At the congress venue VILLA QUARANTA, congress participants could enjoy special Italian delicacies in a pleasant atmosphere not only during the breaks of the scientific programme, but at the two evening events on the grounds of Tomasi family vineyard as well. The second edition of Giornate Veronesi will be held, once again, in VILLA QUARANTA on 1 and 2 May 2020.

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