IMAGINA Dental receives high praise as foremost technology congress

Author: Dental Tribune International

After three days of lectures and workshops at the Grimaldi Forum, the fifth annual IMAGINA Dental congress ended on the 9th of April. More than 600 visitors from 26 countries attended the event, which received positive feedback from both the presenters and attendees.

It was apparent that IMAGINA has maintained its reputation as the leading congress for digital and aesthetic technology. In particular, participants emphasised the quality of the presentations and remarked that IMAGINA is more personal, giving the opportunity to engage with the presenters.

Here are some highlights of the second and third days:

“Innovations in implantology” was the theme of the second day and started with a presentation by Drs Luc Manhès and Guillaume Fougerais titled “At the dawn of artificial intelligence, how to leverage technologies to keep hold of our dental treatments?” The speakers
demonstrated that using CBCT technology, it is possible to obtain perfect treatment planning in 3-D. They pointed out that very few dentists use the technology and emphasised the value of using CBCT. Only 3 per cent of dentists use surgical guides to place implants, but Manhès and Fougerais encouraged the use of a surgical guide even for a simple case "to see the technology through".

Dr Joseph Choukroun was the guest of honour of the second day. In his presentation, titled "A-PRF and i-PRF: the latest innovations with the use of mesenchymal stem cells in the dental office", he explained how it is possible today to treat patients who have lost bone, cartilage and collagen by regenerating the lost tissue with stem cells. In the past, harvesting stem cells and treating them were very difficult to achieve. However, today, stem cells can be extracted directly with a blood sample, and Choukroun presented the technique for quickly extracting stem cells and injecting them where needed.

He then demonstrated on two patients: one was injected in the knee to treat the cartilage post-prosthesi s placement and the other in the temporomandibular joint to treat ongoing pain in that area. According to Choukroun, "this technological innovation will definitely simplify regenerative medical treatments using a minimally invasive approach."

Concluding the second day, the IMAGINA Dental Award 2016 for the most innovative equipment or software that uses digital technology was given to Sirona.

The theme of the last day of the congress was "Digital smile design". The room was full for Prof. Angelo Putignano’s presentation, titled Simplexity in dentistry: The StyleItaliano approach. He began by explaining the guiding foundation for his work—colour and details—and went on to demonstrate this, taking the attendees on a magical trip to see what can be achieved in aesthetics.

Putignano showed a captivated audience that it is possible in the daily practise to obtain unbelievable results and quality with simple techniques. He emphasised that "it is not art, it is only technique", and so anyone willing to spend the time to learn can obtain excellent results.

The conference room remained full for the guest of honour, Dr Mauro Fradeani, whose "Aesthetic dentistry and minimally invasive treatment" presentation was equally fascinating. According to Fradeani, "it is difficult to achieve greatness in dentistry without a group to collaborate with". The exchange of ideas and knowledge motivated him to, after many years, change completely and to do his work in different ways, think in different ways and focus on the importance of minimally invasive treatment. For him, the goal is to preserve the tooth structure, especially enamel, as far as possible, so that the ceramic or composite can be bonded to it. This, in turn, allows the creation of beautiful restorations with limited ceramic thickness.

Fradeani stated that as a doctor one can change the life of one’s patient. He demonstrated this through two case presentations, one a patient from Germany and the other from Ukraine. That a patient came from so far away to be treated speaks of Fradeani’s skills and knowledge.

The sixth IMAGINA Dental will be held from 13 to 16 April 2017 in Monaco.