Four individuals were honored for achieving fellowship status in the Academy of Osseointegration (AO) during the group's 2017 annual meeting in Orlando, Fla. Fellowship in the academy is obtained by demonstrating a commitment to the field of osseointegration. Members must excel in both academics as well as service to the academy.

The first recognized fellow was Dr. Zvi Artzi, a periodontist who attended the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and Hadassah School of Dental Medicine. He is a professor in the Department of Periodontology at the School of Dental Medicine at Tel Aviv University and the chairman of the National Board Scientific Council of Periodontology in the Minister of Health. Artzi is the ambassador for AO's Charter Chapter in Israel and has served on the AO/OF Research Grant Committee. He has authored nearly 100 scientific articles and research abstracts in periodontology and oral implantology.

The second newly elected fellow was Dr. Jeffrey Lloyd. He graduated from the University of Southern California School of Dentistry and immediately went into private practice in Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., where he still practices today. Lloyd is a member of AO’s board of directors and very active in the field of dentistry. He previously held numerous leadership appointments with the Academy of General Dentistry, Academy for Sports Dentistry and World Clinical Laser Institute.

Since joining the academy in 1999, he has chaired AO’s Membership Committee and AO’s Membership Committee.

From left, Dr. Zvi Artzi, Dr. Jeffrey Lloyd and Dr. John Lupovici joined Malmquist in achieving fellowship status with the AO. See FELLOWSHIP, page B2

Study links periodontal disease, tooth loss and higher risk of death

A new study has suggested that overall mortality in the general population, and older women in particular, could be reduced by improving periodontal health. Evaluating data on more than 57,000 postmenopausal women, researchers at the University at Buffalo found that presence of periodontitis and tooth loss is associated with a significantly higher risk of death.

The women in the study were aged between 55-89, had no known cardiovascular disease events and were originally enrolled in the Women’s Health Initiative observational study. In the study population, the prevalence of periodontitis and edentulism was 26 percent and 5.9 percent, respectively. During a mean follow-up period of 6.7 years, the researchers recorded 3,589 cardiovascular disease events and 3,816 deaths. They also found that a history of periodontal disease was associated with a 12 percent higher risk of death and the loss of all natural teeth was associated with a 17 percent higher risk.

“Our findings suggest that older women may be at higher risk for death because of their periodontal condition and may benefit from more intensive oral screening measures,” said Dr. Michael J. LaMonte, lead author and research associate professor in the university’s Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health. “However, studies of interventions aimed at improving periodontal health are needed to determine whether risk of death is lowered among those receiving the intervention compared to those who do not. Our study was not able to establish a direct cause and effect.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, almost 50 percent of adults in the United States ages 30 and older have some form of periodontal disease. It is estimated that about 20 percent of adults aged 65 and older in the country are edentulous. The study, titled “History of periodontitis diagnosis and edentulism as predictors of cardiovascular disease, stroke, and mortality in postmenopausal women,” was published in the April issue of the Journal of the American Heart Association.
A diplomat of American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (ABOMS), International Congress of Oral Implantologists (ICOI) and the National Dental Board of Anesthesiology, Malmquist is also a member of 13 other dental organizations. He served seven years as an examiner for ABOMS and was the first president of American Academy of Oral Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) from the Pacific Northwest.

A member of the academy since 1986, he chaired its JOMI Oversight Task Force for several years and served on the following AO committees: Ethics and Professional Conduct, Membership and Awards; AO/OF Research Grant, two Annual Meeting Program Committees, the Advisory Committee on Committees, and AO’s Executive Committee.

In addition, Malmquist has authored more than 20 scientific articles, five textbook chapters and has presented at least 200 lectures around the world. Reflecting the importance of science and service embodied in its founding principles, the academy established a fellow membership category to honor those individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the Academy of Osseointegration and implant dentistry in general. Criteria has been established to offer a careful balance of requirements that will ensure it is attainable by all members. "While not a form of credentialing, the Academy of Osseointegration board of directors believes that attaining fellow status of the academy says more about our members than case presentations or examination of knowledge," said AO President Dr. Alan Pollack, who honored this year’s newly elected fellows. "It sets the standard for those who take their continuing professional education seriously, have a strong commitment to the field of implant dentistry and recognize the incredible value that volunteerism and philanthropy have to the profession."
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