“There is a general sense of frustration throughout the world”

An interview with CoDent founders Profs. Dov Sydney, USA, and Mauro Labanca, Italy

With the first World Congress on Controversies in Dentistry (CoDent), Prof. Dov Sydney from USA/Israel and Prof. Mauro Labanca from Italy are aiming to make news by reaching current conclusions to ongoing debates in the field through evidence-based dentistry, as well as expert opinion and speaker-audience discussions. Dental Tribune International had the opportunity to speak with them about their concept, general information overload in dentistry and the upcoming launch of CoDent in Barcelona in Spain in 2016.

Dental Tribune International: Could you briefly introduce your project?

Prof. Dov Sydney: It is called CoDent and it is part of a company called CongressMed, which has developed a model for congresses based on the concept of “Controversies in…” CongressMed’s education is devoted to addressing controversial medical issues in a debate format. Our role is to bring the concept to the dental field, and this involves defining the first topic, finding the moderators and generally advancing the project. We thought it good to start with implants because it is one of the most difficult issues we are faced with as dentists. In this regard, the first congress will address the topic of controversies in dental implantology and will be held in Barcelona from 3 to 5 November 2016.

What distinguishes this congress concept from other meetings?

Prof. Mauro Labanca: We hope to promote real discussions and interaction between practising physicians and researchers on unresolved pressing clinical issues. We do not want to be a substitute for any other existing meeting. For the first congress, we will be discussing implants, but future topics do not have to be surgical ones. Congresses could address adhesive and restorative dentistry or different kinds of treatments in orthodontics. We are not an academy or a scientific society; we already have so many and we do not want to compete with them. We are doing something totally different.

What will the programme cover?

Prof. Labanca: Right now, we have eight topic modules that we feel are very interesting and will foster debate, as well as greater knowledge at the end of the meeting, hopefully. The programmes are designed to provide an effective forum for debate by allowing ample time for speaker-audience discussion. There are not going to be long presentations by one speaker. Instead, we will have very short addresses of about 10 to 15 minutes during which the speakers will seek to answer a specific question. The result will be that, after approximately 1.5 hours, the audience will have had a summary by some of the most important speakers on that topic.

There is a general sense of frustration throughout the world
Dental Tribune editors in talks with Prof. Dov Sydney and Prof. Mauro Labanca (from left to right. © Kristin Hübner/DTI)

Prof. Sydney: It will be the first time that dental companies will be on the podium together, presenting their best speakers but without the restrictions of having to identify that they work for the company etc. Afterwards, the companies will be able to debate with each other on a number of points. We also aim to initiate an interactive exchange between speakers and the audience with questions via microphone and social networks, in order to cover all the questions that may arise. At the end of each small section, the aim is to have achieved a fair and balanced coverage of the respective subject.

What impact do you hope to have with this idea?
Prof. Sydney: We expect to make news. Up to now, dental companies have mostly marketed their products in a way they think is most appealing to their target customers, but the individual dentist who is going to buy the products, quite frankly, does not have all the information to make a decision. And even if she or he does have a sense of direction regarding which implant system to choose, he or she is often not totally sure of the optimum selection. Our concept provides an industry. How can a busy and especially non-academic practitioner properly compare all the information that is available? What will we offer is the scientifically accurate information in order to help them interpret the efficacy and applicability of the message they receive from companies.

You are both dentists. Have you experienced this problem yourselves?
Prof. Labanca: Exactly. When I started with implants many years ago, I had the idea to bring the most important companies together to

“In many countries, dentistry is generally a private practice industry.”

Everyone Has a Favorite. Luxatemp.

For more than 20 years, Luxatemp has been setting new benchmarks as the ultimate material for perfectly fitting and aesthetic provisional crowns. DMG has continuously expanded its range of products for temporaries – with help of variants to meet the everyday requirements of the practice. Whether Luxatemp Plus, the reliable tried and trusted classic, Luxatemp Fluorescence, for superior natural aesthetics, or Luxatemp Star, the high-tech material with new record values in flexural strength and fracture resistance – each member of the Luxatemp family offers the quality and unique clinical results for which Luxatemp has been known worldwide for years: www.dmg-dental.com

The No. 1 for temporary crowns & bridges*

*2015 Top Provisional – Esthetic Award for Luxatemp Star (Luxatemp Star is sold in the U.S. as »Luxatemp Ultra« and was

2015 Top Provisional – Esthetic Award for Luxatemp Star

Dental Tribune Asia Pacific Edition / 7 + 8/2015

World News