On Wednesday, March 13, the Academy of Osseointegration (AO) will be partnering with leading international corporations in implant dentistry to offer myriad hands-on workshops, as well as pre-conference sessions, as an opportunity for members to earn C.E. credit toward the AO certificate in implant dentistry.

All of these sessions will be offered as part of AO’s 34th annual meeting, taking place March 13–16 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in downtown Washington, D.C.

Hands-on workshops, fitting the multi-disciplinary nature of the annual meeting and the background of the attendees and membership, will offer registrants the opportunity to fine-tune their skills using the newest materials and technology available today. New for 2019, these popular limited-attendance and often sold-out workshops will be full-day sessions (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.).

The list of AO 2019 hands-on workshop topics includes:

How No. 1
• “Digital Solutions: Innovations in Single-Tooth Replacement,” with Mark Montana, DDS, and Joseph Schmidt, DDS. (Supported by a grant from Dentsply Sirona.)

How No. 2
• “Modern Soft-Tissue Management with Applying Autogenous Transplants and Soft-Tissue Substitutes,” with Daniel Thoma, DMD. (Supported by a grant from Geistlich Biomaterials.)

How No. 3
• “The Edentulous Patient — Advanced Surgical Techniques for both Maxillary and Mandibular Arches,” with Jay Neugarten, DDS, MD. (Supported by a grant from Nobel Biocare.)

How No. 4
• “Implant-Supported Craniofacial Rehabilitation of the Resorbed or Resected Maxilla,” with Gregory Boyes-Varley, BDS, MD, and Dale Howes, BSc. (Dent), BDS, MDent (Pros), FCD(SA), FICD. (Supported by a grant from Southern Implants.)

How No. 5
• Workshop No. 1: “Guided Surgery Treatment Planning Workflow,” with Adam Hamilton, BDSc, DCD.

• Workshop No. 2: “The Chairside Workflow for Tooth-Borne Restorations: Scanning, Designing and Milling a Crown” with Marcus Abboud, DMD, PhD, and Mark I. Ryder, DMD, professor of periodontology at the University of California, San Francisco, noted that the presence of P. gingivalis increased the production of amyloid beta, a component of the amyloid plaques whose accumulation contributes to Alzheimer’s. The study confirmed via animal testing that P. gingivalis can travel from the mouth to the brain and that the related gingipains can destroy brain neurons. These findings are noteworthy in that they suggest a biological mechanism for how periodontal disease bacteria may play a role in the development and progression of Alzheimer’s.

According to Richard Kao, DDS, PhD, president of the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP), this study underscores the important role of gum health on overall wellness.

“Periodontists have long known that a healthy mouth contributes to a healthy body, and research has suggested an association between periodontal disease and dementia conditions, such as Alzheimer’s disease. The new study strengthens that connection by demonstrating a biological path.”

By AAP Staff

Periodontal disease bacteria linked to Alzheimer’s

Periodontists stress the importance of gum health in at-risk groups

A recent study has periodontists encouraging patients to maintain gum health in an effort to reduce their Alzheimer’s disease risk.

The study, published in the journal Science Advances, uncovered a potential link between P. gingivalis, the bacteria associated with periodontal disease, and Alzheimer’s. Researchers analyzed brain tissue, spinal fluid and saliva from Alzheimer’s patients — both living and deceased — and found evidence of P. gingivalis. Gingipains, the toxic enzyme secreted by P. gingivalis, were found in 96 percent of the 53 brain tissue samples examined, with higher levels detected in those with the pathology and symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease.

Additionally, researchers including co-author Mark I. Ryder, DMD, professor of periodontology at the University of California, San Francisco, noted that the presence of P. gingivalis increased the production of amyloid beta, a component of the amyloid plaques whose accumulation contributes to Alzheimer’s. The study confirmed via animal testing that P. gingivalis can travel from the mouth to the brain and that the related gingipains can destroy brain neurons. These findings are noteworthy in that they suggest a biological mechanism for how periodontal disease bacteria may play a role in the development and progression of Alzheimer’s.

According to Richard Kao, DDS, PhD, president of the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP), this study underscores the important role of gum health on overall wellness.

“Successful treatment of periodontal disease can help reduce the risk of Alzheimer’s, and periodontists encourage patients to maintain gum health in an effort to reduce their Alzheimer’s disease risk.”

By AAP Staff
Rodrigo Fuentesalba, DDS.

How No. 6

“Same-Day Guided Immediate Placement and Provisionalization using Improved Digital Workflow,” with Gary A. Morris, DDS, P.J. Schaner, DMD, and Mark Palmer, president/CEO imaging. (Supported by a grant from Zimmer Biomet.)

Please note AO’s hands-on workshops are available for an additional registration cost. (Participants must be registered for the annual meeting to enroll in the hands-on workshops). Admission is by ticket only and attendance is limited. Pre-registration is required as on-site registrations will not be permitted. The academy will also be offering two pre-conference limited attendance educational courses to assist its members in meeting C.E. requirements for the AO certificate in implant dentistry; however, registration is open to all attendees. Sessions will include:

- “Surgical Complications/Emergency Medicine,” with Michael Block, DMD (8 a.m. to noon).
- “The Art of Radiographic Imaging and Interpretation in Implant Dentistry,” with Bruno Azevedo, DDS, MS (1 to 5 p.m.).

Since 2016, AO members have been achieving the AO certificate in implant dentistry as a key way to demonstrate their education and experience that verifies core knowledge and clinical skills in the field of implant dentistry and gives patients confidence in the level of qualifications of their dental practitioner. These pre-conference sessions are a great way to earn C.E. credits toward the certificate.

Plan today to include hands-on workshops and/or pre-conference sessions as part of your schedule for the AO 2019 Annual Meeting and achieve your highest professional excellence. Register by Feb. 11 to guarantee you obtain advance registration discounts. At the same time, be sure to also make your hotel reservations to receive AO’s special convention hotel rates and best room availability.

See the AO 2019 Annual Meeting website for all the details at https://ao2019.osseo.org/.

DISEASE

Alzheimer’s,” Kao said. “These recent findings present strong evidence on how periodontal disease can impact the pathogenesis of Alzheimer’s disease and should highlight how crucial it is to manage periodontal disease, especially in older adults or individuals who have increased risk for dementia.”

Although the study results add to the evidence supporting a link between gum disease and Alzheimer’s, additional research is needed to better understand the etiology of Alzheimer’s and how periodontal disease bacteria can exacerbate progression. An upcoming FDA Phase II clinical trial will assess the benefits of using a novel small molecule inhibitor of these P. gingivalis gingipains in hindering the development and progression of Alzheimer’s. This clinical trial may add further insight to the link between gum disease and Alzheimer’s.

Kao encourages older adults and other at-risk individuals to maintain diligent oral care and promptly treat periodontal disease to help mitigate Alzheimer’s risk.

“More than half of the U.S. population age 30 and older has some form of periodontal disease. Prevalence increases to 68 percent for those age 65 and older. Routine brushing, flossing once a day and visiting a periodontist can help identify any disease and treat as needed, potentially diminishing the risk of developing Alzheimer’s.”

The American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) represents more than 8,000 periodontists. Periodontology is one of the nine dental specialties recognized by the American Dental Association.