The International Congress of Oral Implantologists’ (ICOI) annual Winter Symposium will take place at the five-star Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas from Feb. 10-12. Dr. Michael Pikos is the scientific chair for this symposium, which will feature three days of dental implant continuing education. The 2011 ICOI winter meeting will focus on esthetic zone reconstruction including complications, innovations, use of CBCT and BioActive modifiers.

Attendees will be exposed to a skilled group of experienced private practice and academic-based clinicians who will share their respective wealth of knowledge in a friendly and scientific environment. In recent years, CBCT 3-D started to make big inroads into every discipline in our dental profession, expanding the horizons of clinical dental practice by adding a third dimension to craniofacial treatment planning.

CBCT uses advanced 5-D technology to provide the most complete anatomical information on a patient’s mouth, face and jaws areas, leading to enhanced treatment planning and predictable treatment outcomes. According to dental practitioners using this technology, it makes us more efficient. Essentially, this was a paradigm shift where measurements and anatomical relationships are precise and provide practitioners clear insight into the patient’s anatomical relationships.

As far as oral implantology, according to Kalorama Information (www.kaloramainformation.com/pub/1099235.html), it is estimated that intraoral and panoramic imaging are not three-dimensional, and clinicians can obtain only vague measurements from them due to magnification changes as a result of positioning.

They are not efficient for viewing certain pathologies and, because of the limitations, cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT) 5-D imaging technologies started to evolve. CBCT 3-D captures a volume of data and, through a reconstruction process, it delivers images that do not contain magnification, distortion and/or overlap of anatomy.

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The line-up of the four-hour pre-symposium workshops will feature the following:

- Dr. Daniel McEowen will present a course on the “Benefits of 3D CBCT Imaging Systems,” sponsored by PreXion.
- Dr. Nicolas Elian’s course, sponsored by ACE, will focus on “The All New ‘Secure’ Dental implant System.”
- Dr. Hom-Lay Wang will focus on “Extraction Socket Management for Daily Practice,” sponsored by Osteogenics Biomedical.
- Dr. Carl Misch will discuss a treatment plan sequence to decrease the risk of biomechanical overload in his presentation of “Key Implant Position and Number.” His course is sponsored by the Misch International Implant Institute.
- Dr. Dwayne Karateew’s course will highlight “The Ankylos Implant and the Tissue Care Concept: The Foundation of Hard- and Soft-Tissue Preservation and Esthetics.” The course is sponsored by Dentsply Tulsa Dental Specialties.
- Dr. Ziv Mazor will address bone augmentation in his course, “Current and Future Trends in Maxillary Sinus Augmentation.” His course is sponsored by MIS.

Following these pre-symposium workshops, the general session is planned as such:

- Thursday, Feb. 10: afternoon session Cone Beam CT / BioActive Modifiers
- February event to focus on esthetic zone reconstruction

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