AO brings together specialists, GPs

**Nearly 2,000 clinicians from 54 countries discuss implant science, guidelines and evidence supporting optimal patient care**

By Academy of Osseointegration Staff

**Nearly 2,000 clinicians from 54 countries attended the Academy of Osseointegration’s 30th annual meeting from March 12-14 in San Francisco.**

“Every year, I keep coming back because it’s eye opening every time,” said Dr. Luigi Massa, a general dentist from San Antonio. “Dental school gave us the basics, but AO has definitely opened the door to what is possible.”

Save the date for the next annual meeting, Feb. 18-20, 2016, in San Diego, titled “Globalization of Implant Dentistry: A World Collaboration.”

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California Implant Institute presents live patient surgical courses in Mexico

By California Implant Institute Staff

The California Implant Institute is pleased to present five-day, Level I and Level II comprehensive live patient surgical externship courses in Baja California, Mexico, this year.

**Level I course**

Attendees of the Level I course will implement step-by-step implant surgical protocols on live patients under the supervision of Louie Al-Faraje, DDS, and additional faculty.

The four-day course will include eight hours of lectures on diagnosis and treatment planning of implant cases (around two hours each morning). Each attendee will place 10-15 implants and assist with multiple implants on live patients.

Course participants will increase their knowledge and skill in the areas of flap design, alveoloplasty, implant placement, bone grafting and suturing techniques.

Upon completion of the externship, attendees will have smoother transition from the classroom to surgically placing implants in their own offices.

All patients are carefully selected by the California Implant Institute faculty, and CT scans are provided for all patients. During the last program, 15 participants placed more than 170 implants, including immediate and computer-guided placements, and performed multiple bone-grafting procedures.

**Level II course**

Attendees of the Level II course will...
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create their knowledge and skill level in the areas of advanced implant surgical techniques, including lateral-window sinus lifting, maxillary and mandibular ridge expansions, CT graft and block grafting. Level II participants will work also with Piezotome and CO2 laser units, which are available at each Level II working station. Attendees will add procedures to their practice.

Upcoming courses

The live patient surgical externship in Mexico is provided four times a year. Each of the Level I and Level II programs offer 40 C.E. credits. Complete information on the externship, including tuition, testimonials, staff bios, accommodations and location, can be found at www.implanteducation.net, by calling (858) 496-0574 or by e-mail at info@implanteducation.net.

Academic director

Dr. Al-Faraje is a private practitioner as well as the founder and director of the California Implant Institute, which conducts a one-year fellowship program in implant dentistry. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry and a diplomate of the International Congress of Oral Implantologists and the American Board of Oral Implantology.

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AO honors Professor Brånemark

“He was hypnotizing,” said Dr. Burton Langer, a periodontist from New York City, one of many who gave tribute to Professor Per-Ingvar Brånemark during a special video that played before the opening symposium and memorialized his life.

In the video, AO Past-President Dr. Joseph Gian-Grasso says: “It is because of Professor Brånemark that the Academy of Osseointegration exists, and we aspire to encompass his passion and to continue his lifelong work to enhance oral health globally.”

Following the video, Osseointegration Foundation President Dr. Clarence Lindquist presented the eighth Nobel BioCare Brånemark Osseointegration Award to Dr. Stephen Parel, noting the award will now be given in memory of Professor Brånemark.

That evening, more than 140 young professionals gathered at the trendy 111 Minna Gallery for a special event hosted by AO’s Young Clinicians Committee (YCC). “We’re pleased to contribute to AO’s growth and influence by bringing together committed young professionals to share their ideas and opinions,” said Lauren Brownfield, chair of the committee.

To learn more about the YCC, visit www.osseo.org/NEWYoungClinicians.html.

AO examines, guides and explores

Day two kicked off with the “Morning AO examines, guides and explores” symposium and featured presentations by renowned dental experts from South Korea, a country that boasts the world’s highest per capita use of dental implants.

International Journal of Oral & Maxillofacial Implants (JOMI) presented a session titled “JOMI: Six Articles That May Change Your Thinking.” Among them, the editor in chief of the International Journal of Oral & Maxillofacial Implants (JOMI) presented a session titled “JOMI: Six Articles That May Change Your Thinking.”

The afternoon featured the “Focus on South Korea Symposium,” which included several presentations delivered by renowned dental experts from South Korea, a country that boasts the world’s highest per capita use of dental implants.

Afternoon programming also included the track “Science in Treatment: Where’s the Evidence?” in which Dr. Clark Stanford gave a presentation focused on “Drawing a Line in the Sand” surrounding the treatment and management of the edentulous maxilla. The information addressed outcomes of AO’s 2014 Summit, which generated 12 upcoming papers to be published in JOMI.

That evening, nearly 3,000 attendees celebrated with 2014-15 AO President Gian-Grasso as his presidency drew to a close. They strolled galleries, tunkering with interactive exhibits and enjoying lively entertainment and conversation with colleagues at the Exploratorium.

About the AO

With 6,000 members in 70 countries around the world, the AO is recognized as the premier international association for professionals interested in implant dentistry. To learn more, visit www.osseo.org.
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Key Educational Objectives

Surgery-related topics:
Surgical anatomy and physiology, patient evaluation for implant treatment, risk factors, vertical and horizontal spaces of occlusion, bone density, implant surgical placement protocols, computer guided implant placement and restoration, immediate load techniques, mini implants, bone grafting before, during and after implant placement, alveolar ridge expansion using split-cortical technique, guided bone regeneration, sinus lifting through the osteotomy site and the lateral window, block grafting, BMP-2 / ACS graft with titanium mesh.

Prosthodontics-related topics:
Impression techniques, restorative steps for implant crown and bridge, implant prosthodontics for the fully edentulous patients, high-water design, bar-overdenture, CAD/CAM designs, biomechanical principles, biomaterials, implant occlusion and more

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