Oral bacteria may indicate 

**Increased pancreatic cancer risk**

Researchers have found that the risk of developing pancreatic cancer is associated with specific bacteria in the mouth. They hope that the findings could enable earlier and more precise treatment of the disease, which is one of the most common causes of cancer death in both men and women and results in more than 40,000 deaths annually in the US alone.

The researchers compared bacterial contents in mouthwash samples from 361 American men and women who had developed pancreatic cancer with samples from 371 people of matched age, sex and ethnic origin who did not. They found that men and women whose oral microbiome included Porphyromonas gingivalis, a major contributor to periodontal disease, had an overall 59 per cent greater risk of developing pancreatic cancer than those whose microbiome did not contain the bacterium. Similarly, people with oral microbiomes containing Aggregatibacter actinomyctemcomitans, which has been associated with severe periodontitis, were at least 50 per cent more likely overall to develop the disease.

Further Education at the 

**DGZI International Annual Congress in Munich**

As the most traditional European society for dental implantology, DGZI is going to hold its 46th Annual Congress in Munich, German from 30 September to 1 October 2016. Renowned speakers from Germany and abroad, representatives of associated societies and, of course, participants from Europe, the USA, Asia and the Arabic countries will once more contribute to and profit from an exceptional further-education event. This year, the congress will take place parallel to the annual congress of the German Society for Laser Dentistry (DGL), the Munich Forum of Innovative Implantology and the Oral Hygiene Day, resulting in additional pools of information for our participants.

Antidepressant use could increase 

**Implant failure risk**

New research has linked antidepressants to dental implant failure. The pilot study conducted at the University at Buffalo found that antidepressants could affect the regulation of bone metabolism, a crucial factor for the healing process and implant success.

In the study, the researchers analysed data from the medical charts of the university’s dental clinic patients in 2014. They found that of the few patients who experienced implant failures, 33 per cent used antidepressants. For patients who did not experience failures, only 11 per cent took the drug. Overall, the analysis showed that use of antidepressants increased the odds of implant failure fourfold. Each year of antidepressant use doubled the odds of failure, the researchers stated. Therefore, they advise patients using antidepressants to consult with their physician about the drug’s side effects and alternative methods of managing depression, anxiety or pain.

Antidepressant use has been associated with a number of side effects, including osteoporosis, akathisia, bruxism and dry mouth, all of which affect the implant healing process and are of concern for dentists with regard to oral and bone health, the investigators noted.

**Source:** DGZI e.V.
News

USA to expect
Growing dentist shortage

The demand for dental care services in the US is projected to grow on a national level, mainly owing to demographic changes. However, a new report has forecast that all 50 US states will have a shortage of dental professionals in the near future. Based on dental workforce data from 2012, it is predicted that the excess growth in demand in relation to dentist supply will result in a national shortage of approximately 15,600 dentists in 2025.

Caries treatment may prevent
Pneumonia in Parkinson’s patients

Pneumonia is a common condition in patients with Parkinson’s disease. A new study that explored risk factors for pneumonia development has now found that patients treated for dental caries had a reduced risk of pneumonia compared with patients who had not been treated. The study included 2,001 participants newly diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease between 2000 and 2009. Over a mean follow-up period of about six years, 19 per cent of the patients were hospitalised for pneumonia. With regard to oral health status, the researchers observed that dental diseases were among the most common co-morbidities. About 48 per cent of the patients in the study had dental caries and over 44 per cent periodontitis. Moreover, the data analysis showed that the incidence of pneumonia in patients who had received treatment for dental caries was lower. They thus concluded that maintenance of good oral hygiene and control of oral biofilm formation reduce the number of potential respiratory pathogens, thereby lowering the risk of pneumonia, especially in elderly men. The study, titled “Risk factors for pneumonia among patients with Parkinson’s disease: A Taiwan nationwide population-based study,” was published on 27 April in the Neuropsychiatric Disease and Treatment journal.

US company to study
Genetic test for periodontal disease

Interleukin Genetics, a US company that develops and markets a line of genetic tests for chronic diseases and health-related conditions, has announced that it will conduct a clinical study to assess the impact of its PerioPredict Genetic Risk Test on dental patient engagement for greater preventive dental care. The study will build on the company’s evidence base in support of the medical and economic value of the PerioPredict genetic testing platform. According to Interleukin Genetics, the clinical study, which was expected to begin on May 1, will include 800 dental patients from 20–30 general dentistry clinics who routinely visit their dentist only once a year although they are entitled to two visits a year by their insurance coverage. The overall aim of the study is to assess whether knowing one’s increased risk of developing severe periodontal disease owing to a genetic tendency to overproduce inflammation might influence the frequency of preventive care visits for these patients. The study will be conducted in collaboration with a team of researchers at Duke University and the Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research in the US.
18-year-old suffers from Inexplicable tooth loss

Smiling has become a difficult task for 18-year-old Linzi Grant from England: the teenager has been suffering for years from a dental nightmare. Starting when she was 14 years old, her teeth have become so unstable that even sneezing can cause them to fracture. In addition to the constant pain, blood and pus often occur in the resulting gaps, prompting nausea, continuous discomfort and repeated infections as well as frequent stays in hospital.

Doctors assume the reason for this is her diabetes type 1 and recommend complete extraction. To finance the expensive surgical treatment which may cost up to 20,000 BP, Linzi has reached out to the public and contacted the media. In addition, she is looking for an alternative diagnosis and treatments. Find out more via www.gofundme.com/letlinzismileagain.

Source: ZWP online

PETA urges orthodontic society to Move event from SeaWorld

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), the world’s largest animal rights organisation, has called upon its followers to join a campaign urging the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) to relocate the opening ceremony of its 2016 Annual Session from SeaWorld Orlando. According to PETA, SeaWorld, which owns all but one of the orcas held captive in the US, has a long history of mistreating animals and forcing them to perform unnecessary tricks for entertainment. As part of the campaign, PETA further highlighted that at least 38 orcas have died to date on SeaWorld’s watch. In addition, nearly all the orcas at SeaWorld are suffering from advanced dental trauma as a result of biting the metal gates and concrete sides of their small tanks. In order to prevent orcas from dying of infection owing to fractured teeth, marine parks often drill holes into the pulp cavity of broken or worn teeth to open the cavity enough to be flushed and cleaned daily, for the rest of the animal’s life. This is often done without anaesthetics. Therefore, the animal advocacy organisation has called upon its members and followers to ask the AAO to move its event away from SeaWorld, by writing e-mails or posting to AAO’s social media accounts.

Increase in caries rates after Fluoridation cessation

Community water fluoridation is a matter of debate around the globe. While it is used widely in North America, many European countries have stopped the practice. Owing to a lack of contemporary research on fluoridation cessation, however, researchers in Canada have now investigated its impact on dental caries experience. In Canada, community water fluoridation has been in place since 1945. In a recently published study, researchers at the University of Calgary therefore compared changes in caries experience in schoolchildren in Calgary with those in Edmonton, which has fluoridated its community water since 1967. In examining datasets from the school years of 2004/2005 and 2013/2014, the researchers observed an overall increase in primary tooth decay in both cities, but the absolute magnitude of the increase was greater in Calgary. In their analysis, the researchers focused on smooth tooth surfaces, where fluoride is most likely to have an impact. The study, titled “Measuring the short-term impact of fluoridation cessation on dental caries in Grade 2 children using tooth surface indices,” was published online on Feb. 17 in the Community Dentistry and Oral Epidemiology journal ahead of print.