The Nobel Biocare Global Symposium 2013 in New York saw more than 2,000 dental professionals from around the world come together to explore the latest developments in implant dentistry under the theme “Designing for Life: Today and in the Future”.

A varied and unique scientific program held over four days saw well over 100 leading professionals bring this theme to life as they imparted their knowledge, shared their experiences and presented the very latest innovative technology and clinical approaches. Over the course of the event delegates were taken through four complete "patient journeys": Missing Anterior and Posterior Single Teeth; Missing Multiple Anterior Teeth; Missing Multiple Posterior Teeth; and Managing the Terminal / Failing Dentition—The Transition to Edentulism.

The symposium also offered an introduction to Nobel Biocare's new fully-integrated digital treatment workflow for partially edentulous patients. With the secure, online NobelConnect network at its heart, Nobel Biocare is developing a seamless workflow which brings together the latest innovations at each stage of the treatment process.

Other innovations were also unveiled at the event. The announcement of the creos™ xeno.protect membrane marked the introduction of a new regenerative product to Nobel Biocare’s products and solutions portfolio. Made of biodegradable collagen, the membrane is easy to handle and creates a favorable environment for bone regeneration whilst preventing undesired cells migrating to the treatment site from surrounding soft tissue. The official launch date is to be announced in due course.

Although the symposium has come to an end the work of the Foundation for Oral Rehabilitation (FOR), inaugurated at the event, is only just beginning. FOR has been established by Nobel Biocare to deliver tangible progress across three key sections: FOR Education, FOR Science and FOR Humanity. The formal launch of the foundation saw the presentation of the first “FOR Humanity Award” to Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations, Bertrand Piccard for his humanitarian work such as with the “Winds of Hope” foundation. Professor Per Ingvar Brånemark was also elected as the first Honorary Fellow of FOR and Dr. Patrick Henry was presented with a lifetime achievement award for his contribution to the industry.

FOR is a global initiative that will expand the reach of oral rehabilitation through knowledge sharing and humanitarian efforts, helping ensure the best practice discussed in New York will be implemented to the benefit of patients for generations to come. For those who weren’t able to join us in New York, the key outtakes from the event and the latest developments following the launch of FOR will be appearing in the next edition of Nobel Biocare News and at www.nobelbiocare.com.