

26th BDIZ EDI European Committee meeting

Highly political

The BDIZ EDI European Committee met for the second time this year, this time on the sidelines of the 58th Bavarian Dentists' Congress and the 21st Annual Symposium of BDIZ EDI in Munich. A small round that met there, but a highly political one. The EU Services Directive and, more generally, the European Commission's plans were discussed as they relate to dentists throughout Europe.

The Committee meeting was constructive with interesting contributions from the countries represented. It has emerged that the Dutch colleagues – unlike Germany and unlike the umbrella association, the Council of European Dentists (CED) – welcomes regulatory efforts from Brussels to escape stringent regulations in their own country. The Dutch especially appreciate the EU Services Directive. The Netherlands have no system of dental or medical chambers. (Dental or medical chambers are councils for the medical professions with automatic membership for active professionals).

The "grey area" issue was also discussed, a problem that the Eastern European countries in particular complain about – one incarnation of which is the flooding of the market by unregistered (non-certified) implants. This is an interesting topic that BDIZ EDI will surely address in future.

Anita Wuttke presented the EDI Journal, showcasing its contents and what it can achieve. She also offered a new service – delivery of copies of the journal for distribution at congresses in different countries, provided information about time and place and the number of copies required reaches the editor-in-chief in good time.

Guideline discussion

Professor Vitomir Konstantinović (Belgrade) raised the question of specific treatment standards in oral

implantology and other disciplines. The representatives of BDIZ EDI, Dr Stefan Liepe and Anita Wuttke, referred to the Clinical Practice Guidelines of the Association of the Scientific Medical Societies (AWMF) in Germany as well as to the Guidelines of the European Consensus Conference on Implantology (EuCC) of BDIZ EDI and the Consensus Conference Implantology. They explained that in Germany, guidelines are meant to support the existing doctor-patient relationship, or, in the case of the EuCC Guidelines, represent practical clinical advice for implant dentists. The two representatives also drew attention to the BDIZ EDI's own annual Expert Symposia where new therapeutic approaches and the question of standards are regularly discussed. The importance of some clinical guidelines, as well as guidelines for court hearings, was discussed. In addition, the BDIZ EDI representatives pointed out that issue 3/2017 of the EDI Journal included an article on standards in dentistry. The committee expressed its wish that the topic of guidelines should be taken up with a view to Europe.

New members of the BDIZ EDI family

The implantological associations from the Netherlands, Portugal and Macedonia have announced their intention to become partner associations of BDIZ EDI.

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The European Committee met in Munich in October. Left to right: Dr Nuno Cruz (Portugal), Dr Jan-Willem Vaartjes (Netherlands), Dr Fisnik Kasapi (Macedonia), Christian Berger and Dr Stefan Liepe (BDIZ EDI), Professor Vitomir Konstantinović (Serbia), Professor António Felino (Portugal), Dr Zoran Marjanović and Dr Dušan Vasiljević (Serbia), Dr Deni Milević on behalf of Professor Pavel Kobler (Croatia) with Anita Wuttke (BDIZ EDI).

