



Press Release:
The ITI awards André Schroeder Research Prize 2011 to Nikola Saulacic.

Basel, Switzerland, June 15, 2011 – The International Team for Implantology (ITI), a leading academic organization dedicated to the promotion of evidence-based education and research in the field of implant dentistry, announced that the 16th André Schroeder Research prize goes to Dr. Nikola Saulacic, a PhD dentist, oral surgeon and researcher at the University of Bern, Switzerland. ITI President Professor Dr. Daniel Buser presented the prize at the ITI Congress Benelux in Amsterdam on June 11, 2011.

Dr. Saulacic (42) was selected by the ITI Research Committee in an anonymous evaluation process for his experimental study on "Bone apposition to a titanium-zirconium alloy implant surface".

The winning research aimed at determining the early healing events of titanium-zirconium (TiZr) implants in comparison with titanium (Ti) implants, both with a modified sand-blasted and acid etched (SLActive) surface, and an implant material with additional strength (Ti6Al4V). The study concluded that TiZr implants showed comparably fast early osseointegration as Ti implants. The excellent mechanical properties of TiZr together with the observed fast osseointegration support the use of TiZr implants for more challenging clinical situations, where implants with a reduced diameter are indicated.

Dr. Saulacic graduated as a DDS from the University of Belgrade, Serbia in 1995, where he also obtained his Master of Science degree and Certificate of Specialization in Oral Surgery. From 2003 to 2004 he was an ITI Scholar at the Clinic for Oral Surgery, University of Bonn, Germany. He received his European PhD from the University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain in 2005. Since 2007, he has been working at the Department of Cranio-Maxillofacial Surgery, University Hospital of Bern and since 2009 also at the Department of Oral Surgery and Stomatology, School of Dental Medicine, University of Bern. His main fields of research are implant dentistry and bone regeneration.

About the André Schroeder Research Prize

The André Schroeder Research Prize is an annual award worth CHF 20,000 in cash and today one of the most prestigious awards in implant dentistry. It is awarded to independent

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researchers for the advancement of dental research and development with the aim to promote new scientific findings in implant dentistry, oral tissue regeneration and related fields.

The award was established almost 20 years ago and is presented in honor of the late Professor André Schroeder (1918-2004), the founding ITI President, who pioneered implant dentistry and whose lifework contributed significantly to modern dentistry.

The André Schroeder Research Prize 2012 will be presented at the ITI Congress Canada in Toronto on September 21 to 22, 2012. Information on the application will be available on the ITI website www.iti.org in January 2012.

About the ITI

The International Team for Implantology (ITI) unites professionals around the world from every field of implant dentistry and related tissue regeneration. As an independent academic association, it actively promotes networking and exchange among its membership. ITI Fellows and Members, who now number more than 9,500 in total, regularly share their knowledge and expertise from research and clinical practice at meetings, courses and congresses with the objective of continuously improving treatment methods and outcomes to the benefit of their patients.

In more than 30 years, the ITI has built a reputation for scientific rigor combined with concern for the welfare of patients. The organization focuses on the development of well-documented treatment guidelines backed by extensive clinical testing and the compilation of long-term results. The ITI funds research as well as Scholarships for young clinicians, organizes congresses and continuing education events and also publishes reference books such as the ITI Treatment Guide series. www.iti.org

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