

## Napoca Biodent - from tradition to innovation in dental research

The International Symposium Napoca Biodent, organized by the Faculty of Dental Medicine of the Iuliu Hatieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, has become a traditional scientific event, which brings together the experience of researchers from many fields, addressing the properties, methods of investigation and indications of the Biomaterials in Dentistry.

Dentistry is a unique domain, aiming to address the oral pathology and restore the dental arches by using not only the most innovative technology, but also knowledge from the medical sciences and artistic skills. Moreover, a continuing “explosion” on the market of dental materials offers every day new products, which involve standardized characterization aiming to ensure the highest performance to their clinical applications. As in the other medical domains, one of the most important challenges of a dentist’s career is keeping updated and, at the same time, being selective with the newest technology, which cannot be gained without a thorough continuous education.

In addition to the fundamental and clinical research, the symposium also promotes the education in dental medicine.

During the years, in answer to the clinical needs, new branches of research in dentistry have developed, from the mechanical and optical properties of dental materials, to the configuration of restorations and the biological integration in the complexity of the human host. More than ever, the researchers are interconnected in

complex teams, including specialists in clinical dentistry and maxillofacial surgery, chemists, engineers, biologists, informaticians. In addition, the young generation is more and more dedicated to ultra-specialized research; undergraduate and doctoral students bring into research projects their brilliant ideas, creative energy, valuable skills and knowledge in biology, computer sciences, physics or chemistry.

This year it was a success, meant to increase the visibility of the scientific profile of Napoca Biodent Symposium, to bring to completion this supplementary issue of Medicine and Pharmacy Reports, comprising a selection of the papers presented at the conference. Aiming to offer a comprehensive picture of the event, review papers, original studies and case presentations have been included in the content.

We believe that this edition, when our University celebrates 100 years of Romanian Medical education, conveys a symbolic message in the continuation of a valuable tradition in research and innovation in dental medicine, which defined our Dental School throughout this century.

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