Conference Brochure

2026 Dental Triennial Conference

Digital Intelligence in Dentistry:
From Innovation to Clinical Impact

22-23 October 2026 | Edinburgh

FACULTY OF DENTAL SURGERY

2026 Dental Triennial Conference

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About the 2026 Dental Triennial Conference

This prestigious event brings together leading voices in dentistry to explore the digital technologies, treatments, and training methods transforming our profession. From the promise of AI in education and diagnostic imaging, to the latest in digitally guided implant surgery, prosthodontic and orthodontic innovations, and virtual reality in training, the programme is designed to inspire, challenge, and equip you for the future.

With world-renowned speakers, delegates can expect cutting-edge, insights combined with practical application to improve patient care.

Dedicated networking lunches, free paper sessions showcasing new treatments, and the celebrated Triennial Dinner provide the perfect setting for collaboration, idea sharing and connecting with friends.

rcsed.ac.uk/DentalTriennial

The Details

CPD

Delegates will receive electronic CPD certificates on completion of Feedback. 11 points awarded.

Audience

- The conference brings together leading experts in digital intelligence and digital dentistry for a truly multidisciplinary event. It will offer valuable insights and stimulate meaningful discussion on innovations shaping contemporary clinical practice.

- The programme is designed to benefit specialist trainees as well as early-career dentists with a special interest in the subject. It will also appeal to general dental practitioners, consultants and specialists seeking to remain informed about emerging technologies and transformative developments across all areas of dentistry.

Venue

The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Nicolson Street Edinburgh EH8 9DW

Accommodation

Ten Hill Place, 10 Hill Place, Edinburgh, EH8 9DS

The Pricing

Early Bird Offer

Subject to availability.

Available until 11 July 2026.

Book your tickets here.

2 Days - Early Bird

RCSEd Members / Consultants	£200
Non RCSEd Members / Consultants	£275
RCSEd Members SAS/ Trainees/Allied	£125
Non RCSEd Members SAS/ Trainees/Allied	£150
RCSEd Affiliate Students	£75
Non RCSEd Affiliate Students	£100

1 Day - Non Early Bird

RRCSEd Members / Consultants	£150
Non RCSEd Members / Consultants	£175
RCSEd Members SAS/ Trainees/Allied	£125
Non RCSEd Members SAS/ Trainees/Allied	£150
RCSEd Affiliate Students	£75
Non RCSEd Affiliate Students	£100

2 Days - Non Early Bird

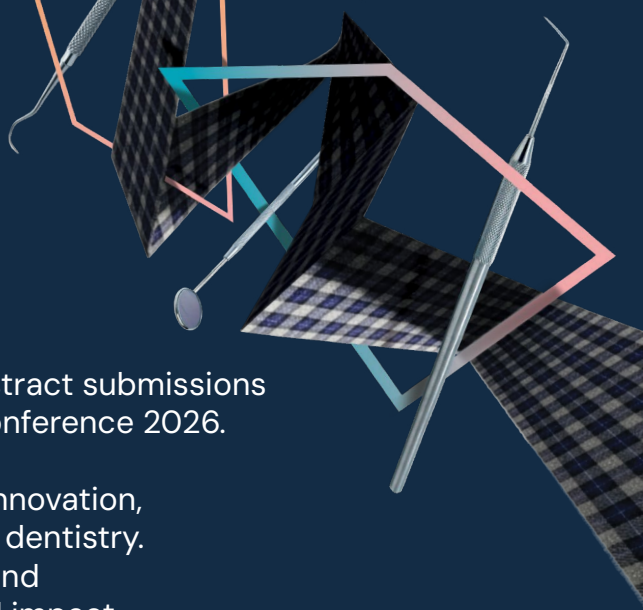
RCSEd Members / Consultants	£250
Non RCSEd Members / Consultants	£300
RCSEd Members SAS/ Trainees/Allied	£135
Non RCSEd Members SAS/ Trainees/Allied	£175
RCSEd Affiliate Students	£100
Non RCSEd Affiliate Students	£135

Dental Triennial Dinner Thursday 22 October 2026

Join speakers, convenors and Dental Council for the Dental Triennial Dinner. Commencing with a formal drinks reception in the Historic Fellows' Library, followed by dining in the Playfair Hall, a magnificent room with a glass cupola ceiling, beautiful architectural detail and decorated in soft, muted colours. Formal/black tie dress code is requested but a tartan flair is always appreciated. **£110 per person.**

Book your dinner tickets here.

Abstracts



The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh invites abstract submissions for free paper presentations at the Dental Triennial Conference 2026.

We welcome abstracts showcasing original research, innovation, and clinical application related to digital intelligence in dentistry. Submissions should align with the conference theme and demonstrate clear clinical, educational, or translational impact.

Topics of interest include (but are not limited to):

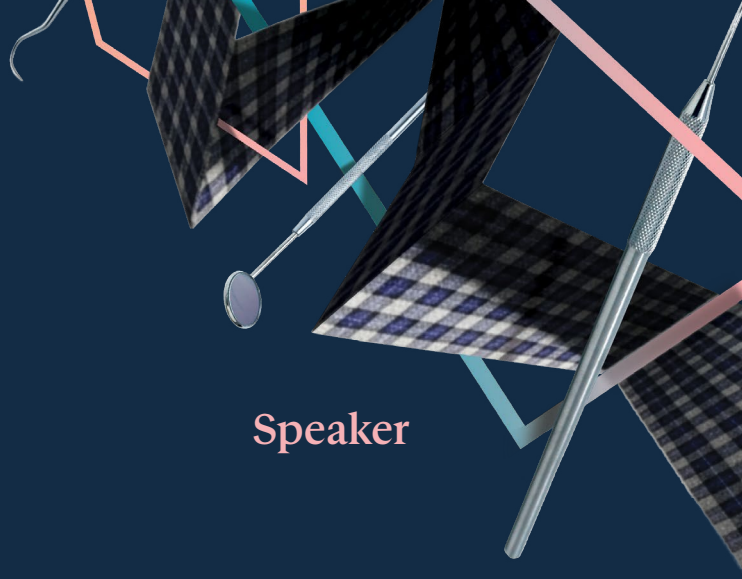
- Artificial intelligence in dental education, diagnostics, and clinical decision-making
- Digital workflows in restorative dentistry, prosthodontics, orthodontics, surgery and implant dentistry
- CAD/CAM materials and digital manufacturing
- 3D printing technologies and applications
- Digitally guided surgery and maxillofacial rehabilitation
- Virtual, augmented, and immersive technologies in training

The abstracts will be reviewed, and the highest scoring abstracts will be invited to give an oral presentation or submit a poster presentation.

The winning oral presentation will receive a prize.

Full submission guidelines and key dates can be found **here**.

Be part of the conversation. Be part of the future.



Day 1 Programme

Thursday 22nd October

Time	Topic	Speaker
8:45am	Registration and Coffee	
Session Chair: Grant McIntyre		
9:00am	Welcome	Prof Grant McIntyre
9:15am	GenAI and Its Impact on Education and Training	Prof Phil Newton
10:00am	Training in a Virtual World	Prof James Field
11–11:30am	**Tea/Coffee Break**	
11:30am	Understanding AI in Dentistry and Oral Health and Its Future Clinical Impact	Prof Tuan Pham
12:15pm	AI-Driven Full-Arch Dentistry: From Diagnosis to All-on-X	Prof Adam Nulty
1–2pm	**Lunch and Networking**	
Session Chair: Lochana Nanayakkara		
2:00pm	Prosthodontic Workflows: Integrating Analogue Foundations with Intelligent Clinical Innovation	Dr Ioannis Papadopoulos
2:45pm	Removable Partial Denture Evolution: A Versatile Prosthodontic Option?	Dr Charlotte Stilwell
3:30–4pm	**Tea/Coffee Break**	
4:00pm	3D Printing in Dentistry: Which Material, Which Technology?	Prof Mutlu Özcan
5:00pm	**Close**	
7pm	**Triennial Dinner**	

Day 2 Programme

Friday 23rd October

Time	Topic	Speaker
Session Chair: Richard Cure		
9:00am	Registration and Coffee	
9:30am	Free Paper Session (3 X 10 Min Presentations Related To Innovative Dental Treatments/ Techniques)	
10:15am	CAD/CAM Materials: How Well Do They Really Bond?	Prof Mutlu Özcan
11-11:30am	**Tea/Coffee Break**	
11:30am	Smart Orthodontics: Technology, Teamwork and Tailored Care	Dr John Scholey
12:15am	Digitally Guided Surgery For Complex Dental Procedures: Enhancing Accuracy and Predictability	Prof Shakeel Shahdad
1-2pm	**Lunch and Networking**	
Session Chair: Will Mclaughlin		
2:00pm	Digitally Enhanced Maxillo-Facial Surgery	Miss Saadia Farooq
2:45pm	Innovative Maxillo- Facial Rehabilitation In Head & Neck Cancer	Prof Chris Butterworth & Ms Taran Malhotra
3:30-4pm	**Tea/Coffee Break**	
4pm	Immersive Education	Miss Chloe Barrett
4:45pm	Free Paper Prize Presentation	
5:00pm	**Close**	

Conference Convenors

Dr Lochana Nanayakkara

Dental Council Member

Dr Lochana Nanayakkara is a Consultant in Restorative Dentistry at the Royal London Dental Hospital and an Honorary Senior Clinical Lecturer at the Institute of Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London. She currently serves as Director of Dental Education for Barts Health NHS Trust and co-Director of the DClinDent programme in Prosthodontics at Queen Mary University of London.

Since 2010, Lochana has worked extensively with the World Federation of Haemophilia (WFH) to improve global access to dental care for patients with inherited bleeding disorders, and she remains an active member of its Dental Committee as Immediate Past Chair. She is also the Dental Lead for the Infective Endocarditis Multidisciplinary Team at Barts Heart Centre.

Lochana is an elected member of Dental Council and an examiner for the MPros (RCSEd) and DSFE in Restorative Dentistry and Prosthodontics. She previously served as Convenor of Dental Education at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh from 2022 to 2025.

Professor Grant McIntyre

Dean of the Faculty of Dental Surgery & Vice President (Dental)

Grant McIntyre is Consultant Orthodontist and Honorary Professor in Orthodontics at Dundee Dental Hospital & Research School. Grant's clinical and research interests are focused on facial deformity, imaging the face and dentition in health and disease and the effectiveness of orthodontic treatment with over 140 publications to date.

Grant is actively involved in postgraduate training and led the 2023 GDC Orthodontic specialty training curriculum review. He has been an external examiner for undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD theses in the UK, Ireland, Malaysia, Australia and the West Indies.

Within RCSEd, Grant is Trustee, Examination Assessor, an Accreditation Reviewer and sits on multiple Boards. Grant has been an examiner for MFDS, MOrth and other dental examinations for over 20 years.

Grant was awarded the British Orthodontic Society Patron's Cup in 2023, an King James IV Professorship in 2024 and has been an MR Sims Visiting Professor, University of Adelaide, Australia.

Conference Speakers

Miss Chloë Barrett

Session: Immersive Education

Chloë Barrett is a healthcare EdTech entrepreneur and the Founder and CEO of Immersify Education. She began her career as a qualified dental hygiene therapist before moving into dental education, where she specialized in the design and delivery of internal and external curricula across healthcare programs.

Chloë founded Immersify with a vision to transform how healthcare professionals learn. Today, the platform empowers learners and practitioners worldwide through engaging, immersive, and data-driven educational experiences. Immersify enables users to build knowledge and clinical confidence through interactive, AI-enhanced learning tools designed for the digital generation of professionals.

Immersify Education operates globally, with offices in New York City, Manchester (UK), and Dubai, supporting academic institutions, healthcare organizations, and industry partners across multiple markets.

Chloë holds qualifications in Business, Law, Education, and Dentistry. She also comes from a professional sporting background as an award-winning dressage rider, bringing a strong foundation of discipline, resilience, and determination to her entrepreneurial journey—qualities that have played a key role in the successful growth of her second company.

Professor Chris Butterworth

Session: Innovative Maxillo- Facial Rehabilitation In Head & Neck Cancer

Professor Chris Butterworth is a Consultant in Maxillofacial Prosthodontics at the Liverpool Head & Neck Centre, one of Europe's largest head and neck cancer centres, where he has led the Regional Oral & Facial Prosthetic Rehabilitation service since 2003. He is also Lead Clinician for Dental Implants at Liverpool University Dental Hospital.

Professor Butterworth is the inventor of the Zygomatic Implant Perforated (ZIP) Flap technique, first published in 2017, which combines microvascular free flap reconstruction with zygomatic oncology implants to enable rapid fixed dental rehabilitation for patients undergoing maxillectomy for cancer. He has taught this technique internationally through hands-on courses and invited lectures, and the ZIP Flap is now being performed by surgical teams around the world, with an increasing number of independent publications demonstrating its global adoption.

He was appointed Honorary Professor of Maxillofacial Prosthodontics at the University of Liverpool in 2019 and serves as Associate Postgraduate Dental Dean for Dental Specialist Training at NHS England North West. He is a Past President of the British Society of Prosthodontics – the youngest ever to hold this position and was awarded an Honorary Fellowship (ad-hominem) by RCS Edinburgh in 2024.

With over 90 peer-reviewed publications, multiple text-book chapters and more than 50 international invited lectures, Professor Butterworth is recognised globally as a leading authority on zygomatic implants and oro-facial rehabilitation in oncology patients.

Conference Speakers

Miss Saadia Farooq

Session: Digitally Enhanced Maxillo-Facial Surgery

Saadia Farooq is a consultant Oral and Maxillofacial surgeon with a specialist interest in Head and neck cancer and reconstruction at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford. She trained in the West Midlands and has completed two head and neck reconstructive fellowships, the first at the Queen Elizabeth hospital in Glasgow and the second a TIG fellowship at Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead.

Saadia was the first OMFS surgeon to be awarded a BAOMS sponsored place on the Future leaders Programme with the Royal college of Surgeons of Edinburgh reflecting a strong commitment to clinical excellence and leadership development. She also holds an honorary lectureship with the Royal College of Surgeons of England contributing actively to surgical education and mentorship.

Professor James Field

Session: Training in a Virtual World

James is a Professor of Dental Education and Restorative Dentistry based in the University Dental Hospital, Cardiff. James has been actively involved in the delivery of education for over 20 years – and was involved in the inaugural FDT Executive Committee and developing the original Standards for Dental Trainers. James also leads the ADEE (Association for Dental Education in Europe) Graduating European Dentist curriculum taskforce.

His impact and innovation in teaching and training has been recognised with Principal Fellowship of Advance HE, the award of a National Teaching Fellowship, and Fellowship with the Academy of Medical Educators. His educational research interests include the use of simulation, reflective practice, resilience and coping, and curriculum reform.

Conference Speakers

Miss Taran Malhotra

Session: Innovative Maxillo- Facial Rehabilitation In Head & Neck Cancer

Taran Malhotra is a Lead Clinical Scientist in Reconstructive Science at the Liverpool Head and Neck Centre, and a Clinical Lecturer at Manchester Metropolitan University and King's College London. She specialises in 3D applications in oral and maxillofacial surgery, prosthetic rehabilitation, and virtual surgical planning (VSP). She established the in-house 3D virtual surgical planning service in Liverpool in 2015 and now leads its ongoing integration into clinical practice, enhancing patient outcomes in head and neck reconstruction.

She is a Council Member of the Institute of Maxillofacial Prosthetists and Technologists (IMPT) and an accredited supervisor with the Academy of Healthcare Science (AHCS). Taran is an invited speaker at national and international conferences and an invited author of textbook chapters in leading texts in oral and maxillofacial surgery and otolaryngology. As the first in her specialty to secure NIHR funding, she brings together technical expertise and a focus on patients' emotional and psychosocial needs.

Professor Phil Newton

Session: GenAI and Its Impact on Education and Training

Professor Newton teaches neuroscience across a number of programmes, including MBBCh Graduate Entry Medicine, MSc Physicians Associates and a variety of undergraduate BSc courses in Medical Science at Swansea university. He also leads teaching focused on the evidence base for educational practice, particularly on the online MSc in Medical Education

Professor Phil Newton came to Swansea in 2009 from the University of California at San Francisco, having completed a Ph.D in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Leeds (2001) and a B.Sc in Biology at Aberystwyth University. He also holds an M.Sc in Medical Education from Cardiff University (2012).

His current research activities study the evidence base for educational practice, with a current focus on effective assessment in the age of GenAI.

Conference Speakers

Professor Adam Nulty

Session: Advances In Ai and Diagnostic Imaging

Professor Adam Nulty is a distinguished figure in the field of digital dentistry, recognised for his pioneering contributions, educational leadership, and innovative solutions. He is the founder of the International Digital Dental Academy (IDDA) and the creator of Scan Ladder, an award-winning patented scanning system that has transformed full-arch digital implantology workflows.

With profound expertise in digital implantology and CAD/CAM dentistry, Professor Nulty has dedicated his career to advancing clinical protocols through further qualifications, a PhD in guided edentulous implant placement, and extensive research. His work focuses on enhancing accuracy, efficiency, and patient outcomes through the integration of digital technologies.

Highly regarded for his dynamic and engaging teaching style, he has trained thousands of dental professionals worldwide, shaping the global adoption of digital dental solutions. His peer-reviewed publications and key innovations have made lasting contributions to the fields of aesthetic, restorative, and implant dentistry.

Professor Nulty holds multiple degrees and fellowships in dentistry and has received numerous accolades for his clinical and academic excellence. As a keynote speaker at international conferences, he continues to inspire the profession by promoting a seamless fusion of healthcare and technology—driving the digital transformation of modern dentistry.

Professor Mutlu Özcan

Session: Cad/Cam Materials – How Well Do They Really Bond?

Session: 3d Printing In Dentistry – Which Material, Which Technology?

Mutlu Özcan has earned her Dentistry Licenciate in 1993 in Istanbul, Turkey, Dr. med. dent. degree in 1999 in Cologne, Germany. After working as an invited visiting researcher at the University of Turku in Finland between 2000-2002, she did her Doctorate in Medical Sciences (PhD) in 2003 in Groningen, the Netherlands and appointed full professor for Clinical Dental Biomaterials at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands in 2007.

Between 2009-2023, she was the Head of Division of Dental Biomaterials at the Clinic for Reconstructive Dentistry, Center for Dental Medicine, University of Zurich, Switzerland, 2020-2023 Director a.i. Professor, Clinic of Masticatory Disorders and since 2023 Chairman of Clinic of Masticatory Disorders and Dental Biomaterials at the same university.

Prof. Mutlu Özcan is currently the Director of Center for Dental Medicine, University of Zurich, Switzerland.

She also holds Honorary Professorship positions at various universities, some of which are São Paolo State University (Brazil), University of Florida (USA), University of Hong Kong (China) and Chulalongkorn University (Thailand).

Prof. Özcan has authored more than 950 ISI Web of Science indexed original scientific and clinical publications (h-index: 108), is a well-sought lecturer, receiver of several international awards, and serves for the editorial boards of numerous scientific journals.

Conference Speakers

She is EPA-Recognized Specialist in Prosthodontics, Honorary Secretary of the European Prosthodontic Association (EPA), Past president of the International Academy of Adhesive Dentistry (IAAD), IADR / Clinical and Translational Science Network, International Association of Dental Research (IADR) / Dental Materials Group (DMG), Fellow of Academy of Dental Materials (FADM), Fellow of International College of Dentistry (FICD), Fellow in Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, FDS RCPS (Glasgow), Fellow (Ad Hominem) in Dental Surgery, Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburg - (FRCSEd), Edinburg, United Kingdom.

Prof. Özcan is the recipient of the prestigious "2018 IADR Distinguished Scientist Wilmer Souder Award". She received "Dr. honoris causa" title from Romania in 2018 and from Turkey (Istinye University) in 2025.

Her clinical expertise is on reconstructive dentistry and her scientific work focuses on translational and clinical research with a particular emphasis on the development and applications of dental biomaterials and technologies in multiple dental disciplines.

Professor Tuan Pham

Session: Understanding AI In Dentistry and Oral Health and Its Future Clinical Impact

Tuan D. Pham is Professor of Artificial Intelligence in Imaging, Diagnostics, and Trauma with the Institute of Dentistry at Queen Mary University of London (QMUL), and Honorary Professor at Barts Health NHS Trust. He is internationally recognised for pioneering work at the intersection of artificial intelligence, medicine, and dentistry.

Professor Pham's research advances multimodal, explainable, and generative AI to enhance diagnostic precision, risk stratification, and personalised clinical decision-making across oncology, oral diseases, and facial trauma. His work bridges methodological innovation with real-world clinical deployment, closely aligning with the emerging vision of digital intelligence in dentistry.

He has been named a Highly Ranked Scholar by ScholarGPS, placing him among the top 0.05% of researchers worldwide based on the productivity, impact, and quality of his scholarly contributions. He has authored several hundred peer-reviewed publications spanning artificial intelligence, biomedical engineering, and healthcare analytics.

In January 2026, Professor Pham and clinical collaborators at QMUL published the monograph "Artificial Intelligence in Facial Trauma, Oral Diseases, and Systemic Health" (Springer Nature, Switzerland: Cham, 2026), the first comprehensive volume integrating AI across facial trauma, oral health, and systemic disease. This work reflects his commitment to multidisciplinary collaboration and clinically meaningful innovation.

Professor Pham continues to lead international research initiatives translating advanced AI into tangible improvements in dental and medical practice while mentoring the next generation of scientists in AI for healthcare.

Conference Speakers

Dr Ioannis Papadopoulos

Session: Prosthodontic Workflows: Integrating Analogue Foundations with Intelligent Clinical Innovation

Dr Ioannis Papadopoulos graduated from the Dental School of Athens and subsequently worked in private practice with a focus on prosthodontics and implant dentistry, before relocating to London.

In 2018, he completed his specialist training in Prosthodontics at the Royal London Dental Hospital and was awarded the Doctor of Clinical Dentistry degree by Queen Mary University of London with distinction. He also completed the MPros examination and is a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. In 2022, he completed a postgraduate degree in Academic Practice with distinction and was admitted as a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

Dr Papadopoulos is a GDC-registered Specialist in Prosthodontics and works in private practice across London. He is a Senior Clinical Lecturer in Prosthodontics at Queen Mary University of London, where he supervises dentists undertaking specialist training. He is also involved in the education of Foundation Training dentists and is an examiner for the Prosthodontic Diploma of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

He contributes regularly to national and international prosthodontic meetings and has published in peer-reviewed journals. His awards include the British Society of Prosthodontics Oral Presentation Prize and First Place at the Young ITI World Series, Singapore. He is a Fellow of the International Team for Implantology (ITI).

His clinical and academic interests focus on fixed and removable prosthodontics, implant prosthodontics, dental aesthetics, and the integration of established prosthodontic principles with contemporary digital and emerging AI-supported workflows.

Dr John Scholey

Session: Smart Orthodontics; Technology, Teamwork and Tailored Care

John Scholey is Consultant and Clinical Lead for the University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust in Stoke-on-Trent in the UK. He treats a wide variety of complex cases in both adult and adolescent patients. He has a special interest in interdisciplinary treatment involving both surgical and restorative care.

He is the Chair of the Speciality Advisory Board in Orthodontics and Member of Dental Council for the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. He is a postgraduate teacher on a number of courses across the UK and a clinical trainer linked to the West Midlands orthodontic training programme.

John has lectured widely on clinical orthodontic topics in more than 20 countries around the world as well as setting up the popular RCS Edinburgh orthodontic webinar series in 2020. He has won numerous clinical and academic awards throughout his career, including from the British Orthodontic Society, the prestigious Maurice Berman award for clinical excellence in 2013 and the Maney Publishing and Journal of Orthodontics award for best scientific paper of the year in 2014.

Conference Speakers

Professor Shakeel Shahdad

Session: Digitally Guided Surgery for Complex Procedures – Enhancing Accuracy and Predictability

Shakeel Shahdad is a Consultant and Honorary Clinical Professor in Oral Rehabilitation & Implantology at The Royal London Dental Hospital, and Barts & The London School of Medicine and Dentistry at Queen Mary University of London.

He is the Clinical Lead for Restorative Dentistry, Lead for postgraduate implant training and Chairman of ITI Scholarship Centre at QMUL.

He is a specialist in Restorative Dentistry, Periodontics, Prosthodontics and Endodontics. In 2017, he was conferred Fellowship of the Faculty of Dental Trainers (FFDTEd) by The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

He is a Fellow of the International Team for Implantology. He is also the Past Chairman of the Advisory Board in Implant Dentistry for the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and the ITI UK & Ireland Section. He is an examiner for the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and examines for speciality examinations in Restorative Dentistry, Prosthodontics, Periodontology, and Membership in Implant Dentistry Exam.

Apart from the specialist restorative treatment, his areas of particular interest include aesthetic implant dentistry, digital workflow, and management of complex restorative cases including functional and aesthetic rehabilitation of patients with hypodontia and toothwear. Shakeel specialises in treating patients requiring complex and advanced restorative treatment including surgical placement and restoration with dental implants.

He is active in clinical research and has secured over £3m research grants. He is a co-author of a textbook in periodontology and implant dentistry, besides publishing in peer-reviewed journals. He also runs a multi-specialist referral practice in the West End of London.

Dr Charlotte Stilwell

Session: Removeable Partial Denture Evolution – A Versatile Prosthodontic Option?

Dr. Charlotte Stilwell is a Specialist Prosthodontist with three decades of experience in private referral practice in Harley Street, London.

She completed her dental training at the Royal Dental College in Copenhagen, followed by five years of postgraduate study and a part-time lectureship at Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry. Her early career also included nine years in general practice in West Wickham, Kent.

Currently, Dr. Stilwell serves as a Senior Lecturer at the University Clinic of Dentistry in Geneva, Switzerland. She holds advisory and examination roles in implant dentistry and prosthodontics at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. Dr. Stilwell is also the immediate past president of the ITI International Team for Implantology.

Dr. Stilwell lectures internationally on fixed and removable prosthodontics—both conventional and implant-assisted—as well as on the management of occlusion.

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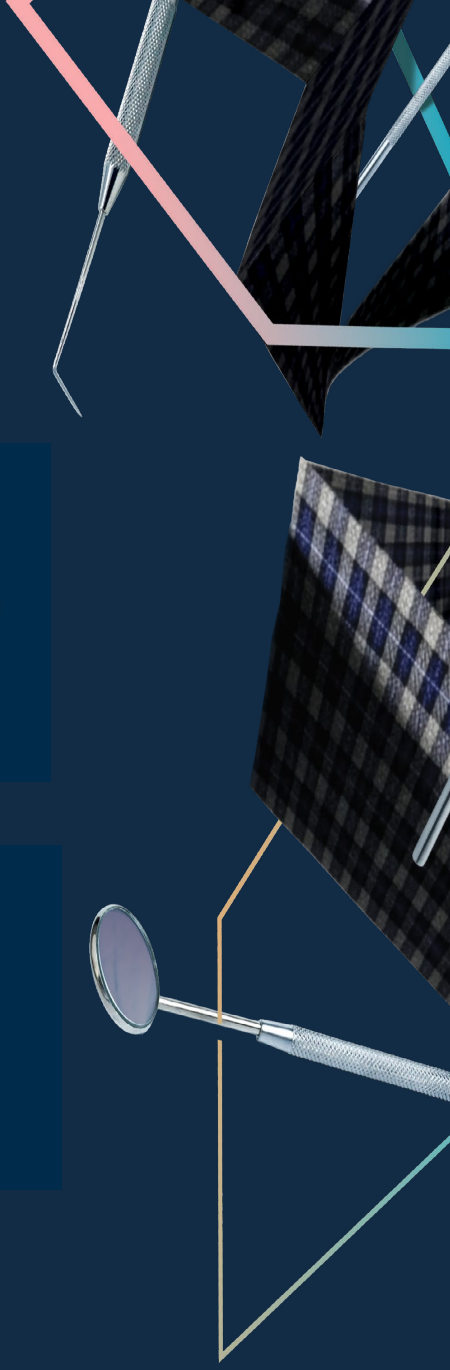

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