

A job well done

The *Dentist* speaks with **Abid Faqir** as his time as president of the ADI comes to an end.

The Association of Dental Implantology (ADI) is the go-to organisation for all professionals involved with dental implant treatment. It is dedicated to supporting professional education and offers an array of membership benefits to help individuals and teams deliver the highest possible standard of patient care.

At the helm of the ADI for the past two years has been Abid Faqir. As his presidency comes to end, he reflects on what the organisation has achieved.

"We have had a number of focuses over the past two years," he says. "Predominately, we have been striving to improve our offerings for members. Our aim has been to make sure that we are giving the membership access to cutting-edge education, with different avenues of learning to suit everyone. We are here for all members of the dental implant team, covering a wide range of relevant topics through our ADI Team Congress, ADI Masterclasses and ADI Study Clubs, from digital dentistry and clinical skill development to use of social media and innovative materials.

"Of particular note has been the addition of premium membership to Dental Tubules now available to all ADI Clinician and First Five Years members as standard. This provides new ways for members to learn and discover new technologies, with a huge range of videos and resources available at the click of a button at any time, anywhere. We have also set up the ADI Members' Only Facebook page as a source of networking and advice from peers, which we are delighted to see so many professionals using regularly."

As it does every year, the ADI has presented various popular educational events during Abid's presidency. These remain a highlight of the year for many, as Abid goes on to discuss.

"With regards to our events in the last two years, the biennial ADI Team Congress held in 2019 was a massive

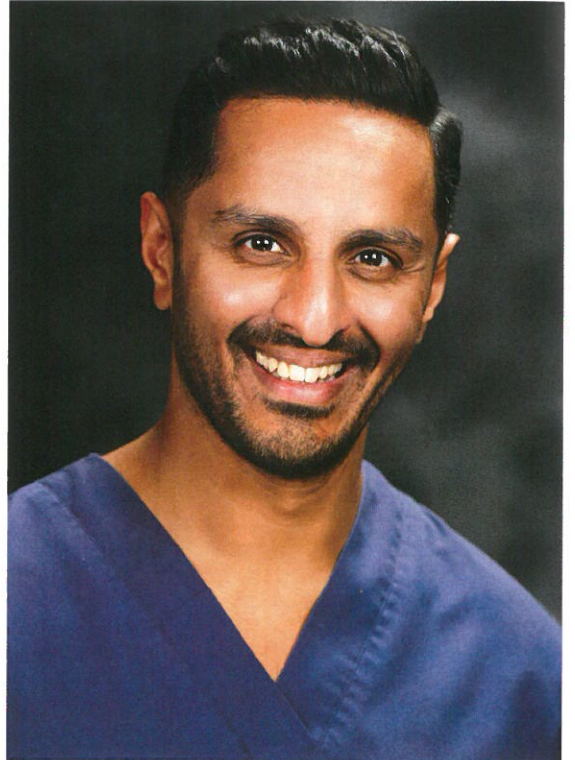
success. I was very proud of the programme we were able to present and of the positive feedback we received from delegates. We also welcomed a record number of professionals, which was fantastic. Our ADI Masterclasses and ADI Study Clubs have also been well-received – the calibre of which we are constantly striving to improve. In addition, the ADI Members' National Forum 2019 is always a great highlight, exclusive to ADI members and free to attend. All of these changes were brought in to enhance what the ADI offers its members in the long-term."

Despite the ADI's great successes, there have been several challenges faced by the profession in the field of dental implantology.

Abid shares what some of these were and how the ADI are helping to find solutions.

"I think the biggest challenges with regards to dental implants right now are the ever-growing regulations and the risk of litigation – which is ultimately pushing up indemnity premiums. It's also become more difficult for clinicians to acquire a recognised qualification that demonstrates their competency in the field. The ADI is working to address these challenges by meeting with regulators, as well as education and training course providers. We are aiming to both highlight the issues and collaborate with the relevant professional bodies to find solutions that will benefit our members, the wider dental profession and patients."

As the ADI moves into its next phase with incoming president Eimear O'Connell, Abid leaves us with his visions for the future of the association.



Abid Faqir is the outgoing president of the ADI.

"I foresee the ADI continuing to grow both in membership size and with regards to its offerings, as it forms new relationships with other professional organisations. It will certainly remain at the forefront of dental implantology. It is already the go-to organisation for anyone looking to be involved in implant dentistry, as well as those with years of experience in the field. I also believe there will be a drive to encourage more female professionals to get involved with dental implants, facilitating their journey as much as possible.

"I would like to say a special thank you to Craig Parker – my predecessor – who provided lots of advice and wise guidance. As his time on the ADI Committee soon comes to end, he will be sorely missed! It has been an honour to lead the ADI over the last two years and I am delighted to leave the organisation in the very capable hands of Eimear for the next two years."