Preparations are gaining pace for the groundbreaking ADA FDI 2021 World Dental Congress – Special Edition, to be broadcast live, on demand and worldwide as a virtual event across 26-29 September this year.

The event, themed Educating for Dental Excellence, will be the first of its kind to be held virtually. The opportunities presented by this format are many, offering a 60-day access period to replay sessions after they have been broadcast during the four days of the event, an Exhibition Showcase to allow delegates, exhibitors and sponsors to interact through video meeting features, and a programme delivering more than 200 scientific sessions, both live and pre-recorded, during the course of the event. Abstract submissions for E-Posters and Free Communications (short oral presentations) were finalised last month.

We are now able to offer a ‘sneak peek’ into some of the truly world-class speakers from Australia and overseas taking the virtual stage during the event this year.

**Dr Mark Wolff** **USA**

Focus:
- How general dentists can improve the oral health of the disabled and those at risk (medically complex and elderly)
- Oral health of an aging population: what we did not consider when we were young and what can we do about it now
- 21st-century management of the caries lesion: from superficial to deep lesion

Dr Mark Wolff is the Morton Amsterdam Dean of the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine and a Professor in the Department of Preventive and Restorative Dentistry. Formerly he was a Professor and Chair of the Department of Cariology and Comprehensive Care and Associate Dean for Pre-doctoral Clinical Education and Associate Dean for Development and Alumni Relations at the New York University College of Dentistry.

He has designed, developed, and implemented an extensive curriculum in caries risk assessment and has designed dental information systems to assist dental schools in monitoring the risk of the entire dental patient population.

Dr Wolff has completed numerous national and international research and oral health assessment programs and has been a lifelong advocate and educator for individuals with physical, intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Dr Wolff has served as the principal or co-principal investigator on multiple benchtop and clinical research projects, has co-authored over 100 scientific papers, text chapters and edited multiple textbooks and is a frequent consultant to industry.

**Dr Finlay Sutton** **United Kingdom**

Focus:
- Facing the professional challenge
- A patient-focused emphasis on removable prosthetics
- Integration of implant retained prostheses to transform patient outcomes

Hailing from Lancaster in the northwest of England, Dr Finlay Sutton works off the stress of his professional endeavours with distance running which sees him rising at 5.30am three times a week. It’s an invigorating counterpoint to running a specialist referral practice in the town of Garstang with his orthodontics specialist wife.

A specialist in restorative dentistry, Dr Sutton is involved in research at the Materials Research Institute at Lancaster University where he is working as a part of a team to develop innovative surface coatings for dentures in a bid to improve their retention rates. With a prevailing professional focus on three areas of removable
**Prof. David Sutton**

**Focus:**
- Prosthodontics – providing dentures for patients, training of dentists, clinical dental technicians and research and development. Dr Sutton is committed to teaching dental professionals how to provide state of the art dentures, in addition to demonstrating the techniques used in producing optimally-functioning, natural-looking dentures.

**Prof. Paul Abbott**  
**Australia**

**Focus:**
- Responses of the pulp following trauma and prevention of external root resorption
- Towards better diagnosis and management of the endodontic lesion

Professor Paul Abbott is the Winthrop Professor of Clinical Dentistry at The University of Western Australia (UWA) where he co-ordinates and teaches both the undergraduate and postgraduate endodontic programs. From 1986 to 2002, Prof. Abbott worked mainly in private specialist endodontic practice with part-time university appointments. In 2003, he was appointed Head of the School of Dentistry at UWA and Director of the Oral Health Centre of WA, positions he held until 2009. From 2010 to 2012, he was Director of Postgraduate Studies and Research.

Now Prof. Abbott concentrates on teaching and research, as well as working part-time in private practice. In addition, he has presented more than 700 lectures and courses in 40 countries and he has published over 130 articles in refereed journals and 18 textbook chapters. Prof. Abbott serves on Editorial Boards and Scientific Review Panels of 17 journals.

Prof. Abbott is a Past President of the International Federation of Endodontic Associations, the Asian Pacific Endodontic Confederation and the Australian Society of Endodontology.

**Prof. James Deschner**  
**Germany**

**Focus:**
- Is there really a human attached to every tooth? The perio-systemic link from a practitioner’s point of view
- The knife is for the Thanksgiving turkey – conservative versus surgical periodontal therapy
- Periodontal diseases and obesity in an aging population – What are the challenges and strategies? What does it mean for me as a practitioner?

Professor James Deschner is Director of the Department of Periodontology and Operative Dentistry University Medical Center of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany.

**Prof. Gabriel Krastl**  
**Germany**

**Focus:**
- Treating the untreatable: Managing deep subgingival tooth fractures
- Direct composites in the aesthetic area: no limits?

Dr Gabriel Krastl has been Professor and Chair of the Department of Conservative Dentistry and Periodontology at the University Hospital of Würzburg, Germany since 2014 and directs the Center of Dental Traumatology which he founded in 2015.

**Dr Aladin Sabbagh**  
**Germany**

**Focus:**
- Aligner versus fixed appliances in managing complex malocclusions
- New indication aspects regarding extraction and orthognatic surgery in borderline cases

Dr Aladin Sabbagh is a specialist in oral surgery and orthodontics, and holds the EU/US patents for both the SUS²/Sabbagh Universal Spring and the Aqua Splint. He has been Chairman of the German Association of Orthodontics, Member of the Editorial Board of Quintessenz publishing, IOS & AEO Prag., lecturer at the European Academy of Dental Education in Nuremberg, and winner of the top orthodontic award (Focus Magazine, Germany 2012-2019).