I.O.F.O.S. e- Symposium

December 5th, 2026

2:00 pm CET

DENTAL MALPRACTICE: EXPERT ASSESSMENT OF INJURY AND CAUSATION

Session 1 - The Case for the Defence

Professor Ricardo Henrique Alves da Silva (Brazil), "Counsel for the Defence"

Professor Cristiana Palmela Pereira (Portugal)

Auxiliar Professor with Tenure, from the Faculty of Dental Medicine and from the Lisbon School of Medicine, University of Lisbon.

Title - Civil and Criminal Liability Through Two Forensic Case Studies

Biography: Cristiana Palmela Pereira is a Professor with Habilitation at the Faculty of Dental Medicine, University of Lisbon. She holds a Master's degree and a PhD in Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences, and a postgraduate qualification in Post-Traumatic Bodily Injury Assessment. She served for 17 years as a forensic odontology consultant at Portugal's National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences and currently coordinates the Executive Board of the Portuguese Dental Association's Expert Committee. She is President of IOFOS, heads the Portuguese delegation to the INTERPOL DVI Forensic Odontology Sub-Working Group, and contributes to international forensic standards development. Her scientific publications focus on forensic odontology, human identification, age assessment and artificial intelligence.

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Session 2 - The Case for the Prosecution

Professor Ashith B. Acharya (India), "Lead Prosecutor"

Professor Vilma Pinchi (Italy)

Full Professor of Legal Medicine, University of Florence, Italy. Director of the Health Sciences Department

Title: Dental treatment and patient death: negligence or an unavoidable accident?

Biography: Professor Vilma Pinchi is a Full Professor of Legal Medicine at the University of Florence, where she serves as Director of the Health Sciences Department and Coordinator of the Forensic Medical Sciences Section. She holds a PhD in Forensic Medical Sciences and is an internationally recognized expert in Forensic Odontology. She is a former President of the International Organisation for Forensic Odonto-Stomatology (IOFOS) and Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Forensic Odonto-Stomatology*. With over 180 scientific publications and more than 130 invited lectures at national and international conferences, she has made significant contributions to the advancement of Legal Medicine and Forensic Odontology.

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Session 3 - The Expert Witness Stand - Evidence

Professor Rüdiger Lessig (Germany), "Expert Witness"

Professor Luiz Eugênio Nigro Mazzilli (Brazil)

Associate Professor at School of Dentistry, University of São Paulo, Brazil.

Title: Dental Error in Implantology: A Forensic Case Report on Planning Failure, Informed Consent and Causation

Biography: Luiz Eugênio Nigro Mazzilli received his degree in Dentistry from the School of Dentistry of the University of São Paulo (FOUSP) in 1983 and went on to build extensive experience in general dental practice (1983–2010). A specialist in Occupational Dentistry and Forensic Dentistry, he earned both his MSc and PhD in Dental Sciences (Social Dentistry) from FOUSP. Since 2011, he has served as a full-time faculty member of the Department of Social Dentistry at FOUSP, devoted entirely to research and teaching. In 2016, he obtained his Habilitation in Forensic Anthropology, attaining the rank of Associate Professor. He also has broad expertise in occupational dentistry (books and book chapters published) and is active in forensic dental practice as a court-appointed expert to the São Paulo State Court of Justice. As a professor and researcher at the University of São Paulo, he is currently engaged in undergraduate and graduate teaching, research, student supervision, and university extension. He is also a faculty member and advisor in USP's Interunit Post-Graduate Program – Interdisciplinary Education in Health.

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Scientific Committee:

Cristiana Palmela Pereira
Ricardo Henrique Alves da Silva
Hrvoje Brkić
Marin Vodanović
Vilma Pinchi
Stefano Garatti
Ashith B. Acharya

Organizing Committee:

Cristiana Palmela Pereira
Ricardo Henrique Alves da Silva
Hrvoje Brkić
Marin Vodanović
Vilma Pinchi
Stefano Garatti
Ashith B. Acharya
Rüdiger Lessig
Luiz Eugenio Nigro Mazzilli
Simen E. Kopperud
Gwénola Drogou Saout
Ana Rodrigues
Valon Nushi