



EFORT CONGRESS BERLIN 2012: TRIBOLOGY DAY

Starting with Vienna in 2009 and followed by Madrid 2010 and Copenhagen 2011 the Tribology Day has become a well-accepted highlight within the high quality scientific program. This day offers comprehensive information in the field of tribology in total hip arthroplasty by world-wide well known experts. The topics are focused not only for experienced surgeons but also for trainees and residents starting to achieve comprehensive knowledge in total hip arthroplasty.

The day will start with a free paper session. These presentations have been chosen by a panel of three independent jurors. As indicated by the many abstracts we received, polyethylene wear, outcome data of highly crosslinked polyethylene and first experiences with vitamin E stabilised highly crosslinked polyethylenes were the main issues of submissions.

The next session is a symposium entitled "Large diameter heads, risk or benefit?". Two presentations cover the topic non-conforming bearings versus conforming bearings, the two other speakers discuss clinical aspects of metal-on-metal large heads and the combination of large metal heads combined with the new polyethylene cup/liner material.

The last session before lunch is dedicated again to free paper presentations with clinical data related to hip tribology. These 6 free papers cover the topics revisions on metal-on-metal arthroplasties, problems of osteolysis and stability of ceramic implants.

The first afternoon symposium deals with problems of polyethylene and ceramics in total hip arthroplasty. Different technology aspects of improved polyethylenes are evaluated, long-term results of various polyethylenes and also the influence of head material on wear of crosslinked polyethylene. For ceramic implants we present a paper about technology of ceramics, long-term results and finally the attempt of establishing an algorithm for the selection of wear components in total hip arthroplasty.

The last symposium on this Tribology Day is dedicated to metal-on-metal bearings. Acknowledged experts will discuss the different implant designs, surgical techniques, head size and finally the bioengineering of metal-on-metal bearings.

We hope that during this day we can cover a wide range of aspects in hip tribology within this time frame and hope that many of you will find interesting topics to join us during these sessions.

Prof.Dr. Karl Knahr
Chair Tribology Committee EFORT