

The PRO-IMPLANT Consultation Portal becomes chargeable by 15 January 2019

Dear colleagues, dear friends

More than 3000 consultations were completed free of charge through the **Consultation Portal** of the PRO-IMPLANT Foundation in the year 2018, daily between 5-15 consultations. Our experts work daily with great commitment to ensure timely and competent advice on complex bone, joint and implant infections. During numerous interactions with you, we were confronted with diverse **challenges**, get ideas for **new innovative approaches** and – we hope so – contributed to the **treatment success** and **patient satisfaction**. This was our goal when the idea of a web-based portal was born two years ago.

In a recent survey among 60 users of the Consultation Portal, 95% responded that the consultations were **very or extremely helpful**, in 91% the **recommendations were followed mostly or partially**. All responses from the survey are available here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-2P6LV85PL/>.

In order to enable sustainability of the Consultation Portal, we need to implement in the new year a **consultation fee** to cover the training costs of our advisors, maintenance and further development of the **online portal**, including the adaptation of the EU General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 (GDPR). Our consultants are trained specialists, all of whom have completed 18 months of **additional clinical training in septic surgery** at the Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin and actively participated in PRO-IMPLANT Workshops. They advise on a voluntary basis beside their daily clinical activities.

From 15th January 2019, you may choose between the following **consultation packages**:

Package	Number of included cases*	Price (excl. VAT)
Single Case (unlimited validity)		
SC-1	1	150,00 €
Annual subscription (validity 12 months, includes the phone hotline**)		
AS-5	5	750,00 €
AS-10	10	1.500,00 €
AS-20	20	3.000,00 €
AS-30	30	4.500,00 €
AS-40	40	6.000,00 €
AS-50	50	7.500,00 €

* All consultations related to the same problem are included.

** The Annual Subscription packages include also the **phone hotline** (weekdays 8 am – 6 pm CET) for short-term inquiries, but case descriptions and advices are subsequently documented in writing.

For all requests a written advice is provided (in German or English) and can be saved as PDF or printed for the medical records. We try to answer each request **within 24 hours**. For each purchased case, **all subsequent consultations** related to the same problem are included.

A typical consultation requires 60-90minutes and includes depending on the case the following items:

- Interpretation of the findings and evaluation of the diagnosis, including the pathogenesis
- Preparation of a complete diagnostic and treatment plan, including alternative treatment options
- Suggestion of the time for oral switch and duration of antibiotic therapy, indications for long-term suppression
- Adaptation of the antibiotic dose to kidney and liver function, age and body weight
- Consideration of potential interactions, side effects, alternatives in case of antibiotic allergy or intolerance
- Contact with the local microbiology laboratory for clarification of findings or request for additional antimicrobial testing, if necessary
- Assisting in logistics, e.g. diagnostic kits for synovia analysis, containers for implant sonication, instruction for antibiotic admixing into bone cement, preoperative whole-body decolonization
- Providing scientific literature related to the case, as well as the latest version of the PRO-IMPLANT Pocket Guides

Individual consultation packages can be purchased online and easily ordered **upon invoice** or **by credit card / Paypal**. The billing address on the invoice can be modified during the purchase process. We want to encourage industry partners to help hospitals and clinics to acquire consultation packages. For questions, special wishes or suggestions, please contact us via: portal@pro-implant.net.

The PRO-IMPLANT Foundation is a **non-profit organization** that does not produce a revenue with its activities, but supports medical research, further education and improvement of patient care.

In the next months, **new functionalities, improved design** and **additional language versions** of the Consultation Portal will be added. From collected cases, a searchable **“Knowledge Base”** will be established and evaluation of long-term patient outcome analyzed.

We thank for your trust and continuous support of our mission to disseminate knowledge and experiences in the field of infection. In the name of PRO-IMPLANT Foundation I wish you a healthy and successful year 2019,



Andrej Trampuz, MD
Chairman, Executive Board
PRO-IMPLANT Foundation