Catastrophic implant failure will be the topic of the Academy of Osseointegration’s 2011 Annual Meeting’s closing session, as academy members and guests review “Major Catastrophes and How to Avoid or Handle Them,” on Saturday, March 5.

“Exploring catastrophic failures helps to further our professional knowledge, since we tend to learn most from mistakes,” explained Annual Meeting Program Committee Chair Dr. Tara Aghaloo of Los Angeles. “This session will offer an excellent educational opportunity for clinicians, whether they are new to the field or have many years of experience.”

Attorney Michael Ragan will open the program with a presentation on implant claims, damages and remedies. Other AO annual meeting highlights will include:

- **Two-Track** Scientific Program: The Surgical Track will explore prosthetic concepts, computer-guided implant dentistry, hard- and soft-tissue augmentation and how to determine success. The Restorative Track will cover maxillary overdentures, short implants, digital impressions and CAD/CAM restorations and other surgical concepts. (Saturday, March 5).

- Round Table Clinics: Fifteen separate sessions offer attendees the opportunity to discuss diverse implant dentistry topics — everything from stem cell-based treatments and advances in ridge expansion to maxillary sinus augmentation in small, informal settings with presenters. (Friday, March 4)

- **Limited Attendance Lectures:** Thirteen limited attendance lectures will increase interaction between annual meeting attendees and world-class clinicians on a range of topics. Sessions include implant esthetics, treatment planning for complex implant restorations, management of failed sinus grafts, implant prosthodontization and more. (Friday, March 4)

- Corporate Forum: AO’s 2011 Corporate Forums will feature manufacturer-hosted educational sessions that showcase the latest research, products, techniques and developments. (Thursday, March 3)

- **Allied Staff Program:** The AO Annual Meeting’s Allied Staff Programs offer concurrent sessions designed for dental lab technicians and hygienists. The daylong series of programs will focus on topics that range from growing a surgical implant practice and contemporary implant maintenance to CAD/CAM information and new products. (Saturday, March 5)

- **Allied staff sessions will emphasize the importance of the team approach to patient care,” Aghaloo said. “New technologies and clinical applications are being introduced at an increasingly rapid rate. It is essential that all staff professionals understand these concepts and how they apply to implant dental practices.”

Complete program and registration information for the 2011 AO Annual Meeting is available online at the academy’s website at www.osseo.org.

(Source: Academy of Osseointegration)