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Press release

Ex rugby international runs implant course

The Six Nations Championship provided an excellent excuse for rugby mad dentists to get together for the 'Sidestepping Problems in Implant Dentistry' course kindly sponsored by DPAS, Straumann & Henry Schein. The event, which took place at the Glamorgan County Cricket Club in Cardiff, was hosted by Ian Mills who has an implant referral practice in North Devon, and former Welsh rugby international Simon Hill. Since hanging up his boots, Simon's energy has been channelled into developing an implant referral practice in South Wales.

Guest speakers included a Fellow of the International Team of Implantology, Adrian Watts and specialist implant dental technician Martin Docking who has lectured on implant dentistry both nationally and internationally. Speakers gave short 'themed' presentations on a variety of issues associated with dental implants, including 'Surgical Guides – use it or lose it', 'the good the bad and the Neil Jenkins!' and 'dealing with the hospital pass'. The presentations were followed by a short Q&A session lead by former Welsh internationals Andrew Lewis and Arwel Thomas, who also provided an entertaining insight into international rugby.

The course was accredited for six hours of Continual Professional Development and certificates were awarded to participants at the end of the session – which ended with a buffet lunch and then onto the Millennium Stadium to see the Wales v Scotland game.

Ian Eslick, Business Development Manager for DPAS said: "The event provided a marvellous opportunity to combine post graduate education with the thrills and excitement of the Six Nations Championship. The match provided a great opportunity for like minded dentists, specialists and service providers with more entertainment following the seminar and another example of how 'teamwork' can be very influential within a dental practice environment – painlessly!! Everyone had a wonderful time and learned plenty about implant dentistry and working as a team."

Event organiser Ian Mills said: "Combining the course with the rugby proved to be a winning formula as the event was a resounding success. We will definitely be planning another similar event next year which is likely to coincide with the Wales – England game in Cardiff."

Proceeds from the event, which amounted to over £1000 will be donated to the Woodenspoon Charity for disadvantaged children.