

The Spirit of

AVOLA

ETERNUS QUIA PURUS



Marcel J. Scacchi

The Executive Director of AVOLA offers expertise in general and innovation management, and building interdisciplinary networks across the globe. He has been active in the dental, medtech and biotech industry for over 30 years.

Author — Marcel J. Scacchi

“Planning is everything, a plan is nothing¹”

In 2022, I had a conversation with Ueli Breitschmid, in which he explained the idea and background of setting up an interdisciplinary group that would look beyond oral health to systemic health. His discussions with friends and acquaintances from a wide variety of professions had flared up again and again in recent years. They were sometimes solemnly documented in honorable pamphlets and mutual oaths, but things never really got off the ground.

With my background in implant dentistry and the close, years-long collaboration with the ITI, it quickly became clear to me what this was all about and how this idea could be given shape and form. My concept was initially greeted with skepticism: “How is a stranger supposed to know what we have been brooding about internally for a long time?” This is what insiders probably whispered behind my back...

But I did not hesitate for long: I needed financing, a balanced and competent board, a structure, and clarity about what, how, when, and with whom. In other words, a concept. A lot of things that had previously existed only in some people’s heads were now put on paper and became concrete. By continuously increasing communication with stakeholders to gain support, the AVOLA virus slowly but surely began to infect me, too!

It must become a mission or even an obsession to believe that health promotion and prevention can change the world. But it is sorely necessary that something changes here and, fortunately, we are noticing that more and more people understand that our current health systems primarily based on illness and its treatment are leading to a dead end.

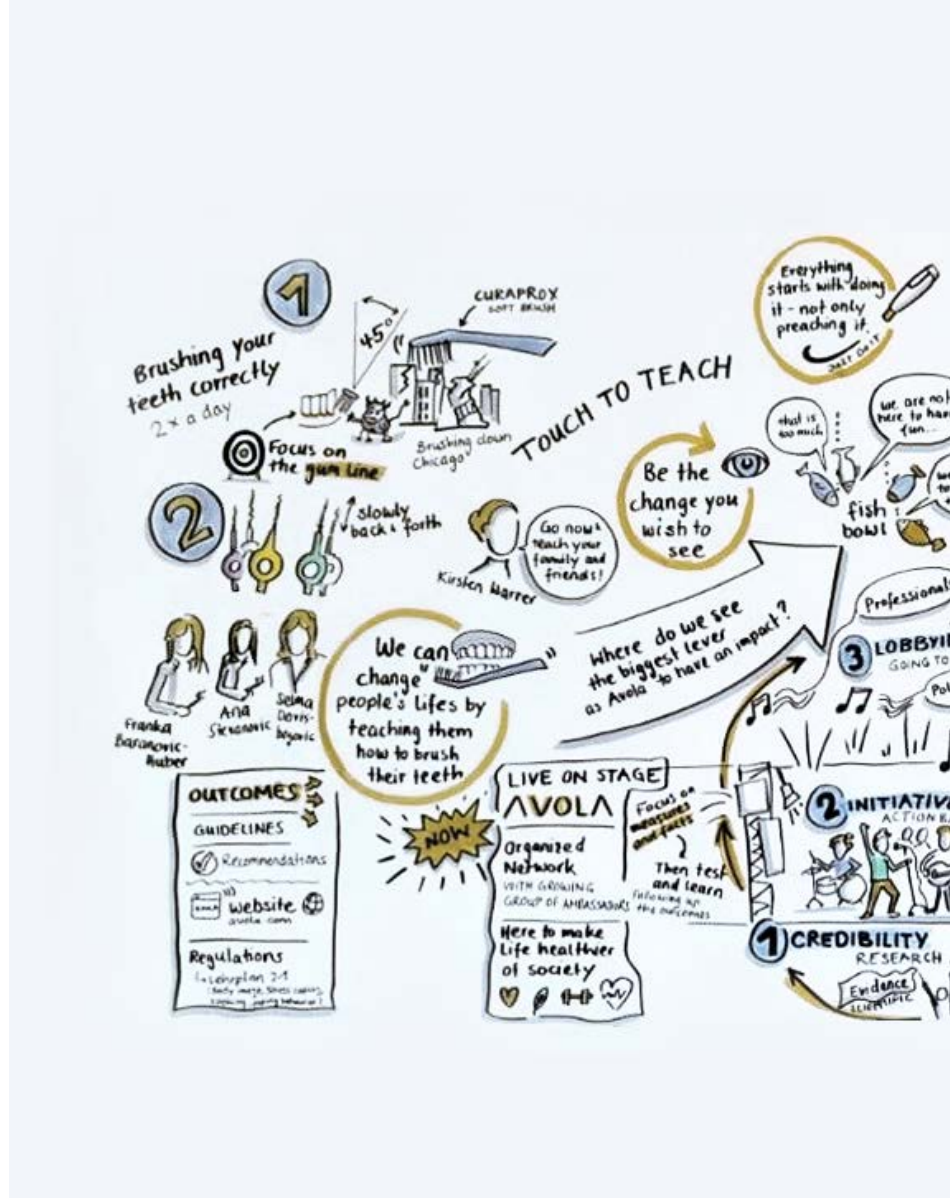
¹ Dwight D. Eisenhower

There is no health without oral health

Oral health has been relegated to the shadows for years. Such neglect is surprising given that almost half of the world’s population – close to 3.5 billion people – suffer from oral diseases. Globally, the number of patients with oral diseases outstrips the total number of patients with the five most prevalent non-communicable diseases (NCDs), such as mental illness, cardiovascular disease, diabetes mellitus, chronic respiratory disease and cancer, by almost 1 billion.

It has long been scientifically proven that oral health has a key influence on our general health. What’s more, it influences our physical, psychological, and social well-being. But there is not enough awareness among the population, so there is a lot to do!

The founding meeting from October 27th to October 28th, 2023, quickly demonstrated this. Experts must meet and exchange ideas more frequently to make their findings and experiences accessible to further develop the topic in a holistic context and to find new answers.



An important part of the founding myth: the thought model of the AVOLA movement graphically and creatively realised.

AVOLA is committed to health and humanity. By enhancing prevention, we envision a world with a healthy life for everybody.

We all want a healthy life – we are all AVOLA

AVOLA is a multidisciplinary, independent, and politically active network of professionals in healthcare and related disciplines. Amongst other topics, we are focused on oral health as the gateway to the human body and the microbiome as the interface to its environment. We choose to work with partners, who help leverage our actions and increase our impact. We promote targeted translation from bench to community, thereby creating value for society.



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AVOLA provides multichannel evidence-based information and education on disease prevention and health promotion. We empower people to increase control over their health through health literacy efforts and multisectoral action to amplify healthy ways of life. As a result of our continuous efforts, healthcare costs will be reduced, and people will live a healthier and happier life.

Join us, become part of a global movement, and help other people lead healthier lives. Become a member of AVOLA: JOIN FOR SCIENCE – STAY FOR FRIENDSHIP.

JOIN FOR SCIENCE · STAY FOR FRIENDSHIP



AVOLA.NETWORK

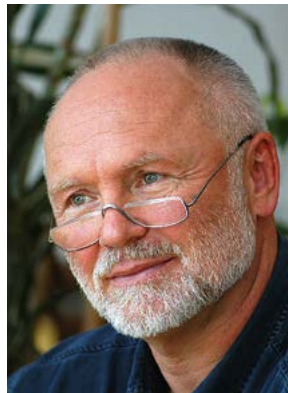


Founding meeting from October 27th to October 28th, 2023

Front row from left to right: Christine Breitschmid; Denis Bourgeois; Kirsten Warrer; Ana Stevanovic.
 Back row from left to right: Marcel J. Scacchi; Bruno Affentranger; David Fäh; Selma Dervisbegovic;
 Bo Danielsen; Björn Bartling; Björn Klinge; Ueli Breitschmid; Franka Baranovic-Huber

The key moment

The key moment in the development of Ueli Breitschmid's company Curaden was when he met Dr Jiří Sedelmayer, who became a mentor for Ueli Breitschmid. The two shared a deep friendship and a common understanding of the topics of prophylaxis, dental and oral hygiene. The claim "health starts in the mouth" became the guiding principle of the iTOP prevention programme developed by Sedelmayer, which Curaden uses to teach dental professionals around the world how to brush their teeth effectively using the appropriate techniques and products. As a pioneer, Sedelmayer has developed three criteria to determine the quality of oral hygiene techniques and products: Effectiveness, acceptance and atraumatic application. Preventive oral health through personal responsibility has characterised the company culture for decades. This is modern thinking and is consistently implemented by Curaden.



Jiří Sedelmayer (1946–2019)

Jiří Sedelmayer was a Czech dentist, university teacher and researcher. He studied and taught dentistry at the University of Hamburg. Sedelmayer was a founder of the Czech Preventive Society, New School of Individual Prophylaxis and the Individually Trained Prophylaxis (iTOP) programme. In his practice and research he focused on individual prophylaxis, filling therapy and endodontics.

Jiří Sedelmayer and his wife Lucie trained thousands of dentists and hundreds of iTOP teachers from Japan, Russia, the US, Canada, South America, Vietnam, China, Australia and the whole of Europe. In total, Sedelmayer certified around 100 instructors, who continue to convey his messages worldwide and teach his methods. He participated in developing a new generation of interdental brushes and toothbrushes.

Be part of our community and advance your professional and social experience. Get on top of your game through lifelong learning with the help of our education opportunities. Leverage our vibrant community of experts through education and social activities.



EXPAND YOUR NETWORK

Access a unique network offering various and exciting activities.



ACCESS TO RESOURCES

Funds are available for clinical documentation or educational projects; grants are available for young professionals (scholarships).



CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY

Enjoy your intrinsic motivation to contribute to a better and healthier society.



ADVANCE YOUR COMPETENCIES

Build your reputation with patients and peers: as a researcher, a scientist, a clinician, a speaker, a teacher or an innovator.