

Prof. Dr. Tomas Albrektsson

---

# Program director

It was a great pleasure for me to serve as director of the Gothenburg Research and Technology Forum, sponsored by BIOMET 3i and conducted in association with the Sahlgrenska Academy of the University of Gothenburg. The forum provided an opportunity to reflect upon the myriad of developments that have occurred since the study of osseointegration began back in the 1960s and to discuss current research that promises to usher in more exciting breakthroughs in the future.

Treatment with implants has expanded in so many ways. What at first was a tool restricted to researchers is now helping millions of patients worldwide. Complex protocols have been simplified and improved. Treatment indications continue to widen, and understanding of implant biomechanics continues to be refined. Whereas once we were able to study implants only at the millimeter level of resolution, microscopes later enabled the study of implant surfaces at the micrometer level. Now research is investigating whether even nanometer indentations can impact clinical results.

Looking further ahead, I can foresee a day when alternative ways of securing and stabilizing implants may be found. But with five-year clinical success rates for osseointegration typically ranging between 95 and 100%, it's difficult for me to imagine that osseointegration will ever be completely supplanted as a means of anchoring implants in human bone.

The reports on the following pages provide insight into some of the exciting developments and research findings presented at the forum. They support my conviction that the field of implant dentistry remains as exciting today as it was 40 years ago.



Prof. Dr. Tomas Albrektsson  
Department of Biomaterials  
Institute for Clinical Sciences  
Sahlgrenska Academy  
University of Gothenburg

