

Artificial Intelligence and Health Data: Shaping the Future of European Dentistry



About the CED



The Council of European Dentists (CED) is the representative organization for the dental profession in the EU and over 340,000 practicing professionals.

It is composed of 33 national dental associations from 31 European countries (28 Full Members, 4 Affiliate Members and 1 Observer).

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Dr. Freddie Sloth-Lisbjerg
President (Denmark)

President's perspective

2024 was a year marked by the European elections, the re-shuffling of the European Parliament seating configuration and the establishment of a new strategic political agenda and policy work programme guiding the European Union mandate over the 2024–2029 period. The renewal of the European political landscape coincided with the final year of my mandate as well as my re-election as CED President for a 3-year period in November 2024. This year was the opportunity for reviewing past policy accomplishments and developments and reevaluating ongoing or new challenges. This includes juggling emerging expectations and uncertainties relating to the accelerated use of digital health tools and the advancement of artificial intelligence in dental treatments and education, backed by substantial legislation such as the European Health Data Space and the Artificial Intelligence Act.

The CED therefore reaffirms its commitment to building a strong and well-equipped European dental workforce. This has been done by continuously prioritising policy work around the Professional Qualifications Directive and the update of stronger clinical training requirements, including for the recognition of professional qualifications and the upkeep of strong standards in recognition of third-country diplomas and for ensuring patient safety, the European Health Data Space and the introduction of safeguards and support for dampening increasing bureaucratic burden on small dental practices.

We have also directed our focus to various European policies and upcoming legislation around artificial intelligence, ensuring that digital developments do not come at the expense of effective patient care, and that AI technology is also carried out in the presence of a dentist, including in the case of Do-It-Yourself (DIY) or Direct-To-Consumer (DTC) orthodontics. We have also upheld rigorous work to ensure ongoing high-quality and efficacy of dental treatments carried out with the help of dental devices, by ensuring the Medical Devices Regulation does not undermine availability of safely proven dental devices through burdensome re-certification processes.

As President at the start of my second mandate, the CED has and will pursue its role in supporting our members' advocacy activities in the fields of self-regulation, use of medical devices, prevention, education and training and digital dentistry. I was able to attend, for this purpose, national annual meetings and events held by CED members in Germany, Norway, Lithuania and the Czech Republic in 2024.

The CED also extended its activities engaging with European and international partner organisations, by participating and collaborating with the European Regional Organisation (ERO) of the World Dental Federation (FDI) on the topic of corporate dentistry, but also accelerated its participation in events and meetings with the Federation of European Dental Competent Authorities and Regulators (FEDCAR), the Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE), the European Dental Students' Association (EDSA) and the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME).

The next five years will be decisive in shaping the future of the European dental profession and for strengthening European cross-sectorial cooperation in areas of crucial importance, taking into account technological and digital advancements, alleviation efforts of emerging risk-factors and prevention, antimicrobial resistance, changes in the European workforce landscape and dynamics, increasing economic uncertainty and insecurity.

2024 at a glance

11 January

CED staff presentation at INTERCEPTOR consortium workshop (Interception of Oral Cancer Development), Lyon, France

30 January

CED at the European Medicines Agency Healthcare Professionals Policy Officers Group meeting

13 February

Working Group Patient Safety, Infection Control and Waste Management meeting

13 February

CED at the second launch event of Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance Healthcare Associated Infections (JAMRAI 2), Paris, France

19 February

CED Working Group eHealth meeting

29 February

CED Working Group Dental Materials and Medical Devices meeting

8 March

CED Working Group Education and Professional Qualifications meeting

14 March

CED Working Group Oral Health meeting

14 March

CED Board Task Force Internal Market meeting

15 March

CED Board meeting, Brussels

25 March

CED participation in interview on Medical Devices Regulation for regulatory governance and innovation in the field of medical devices

26 March

CED participation in interview on Medical Devices Regulation and availability of medical devices

25–27 April

CED President at the ERO General Meeting, Limassol, Cyprus

21 May

CED at the European Medicines Agency Healthcare Professionals Policy Officers Group meeting

23 May

CED Board Meeting in Athens, Greece



24–25 May

CED General Meeting in Athens, Greece



12 June

CED Policy Officer at WHO European Forum on Commercial Determinants of Non-Communicable Diseases, Brussels

14 June

CED President visit and presentation at the Association of Dental Dealers in Europe (ADDE) annual general assembly, Wiesbaden, Germany

24 June

CED Working Group Oral Health meeting

27 June

CED Working Group Dental Materials and Medical Devices meeting

3 July

CED President online meeting with European Federation of Periodontology

21 August

CED Working Group Education and Professional Qualifications meeting

21 August

CED President delivers training session at European Dental Students Association (EDSA) meeting, Strasbourg, France

30–31 August

CED President at Lower Saxony Dental Chamber Congress, Hanover, Germany

4 September

CED Board meeting



8–10 September

CED Policy Officer at ADEE Annual Meeting in Leuven, Belgium



12 September

CED President and Senior Policy Officer intervention at Lithuanian Dental Association event on “60 Years Supporting Self-Regulation in Europe”

2 October

CED Working Group Oral Health meeting

4 October

CED Working Group Internal Market meeting

11 October

CED President and Policy Officers at Baltic Dental Days, Berlin



14 October

CED Working Group eHealth meeting



17 October

CED at the European Medicines Agency Healthcare Professionals Policy Officers Group meeting

18 October

CED President at Czech Dental Days Central European Round Table of the Leaders of Dentistry, Prague



28 October

CED WG Dental Materials and Medical Devices meeting

1 November

CED President presentation at Norwegian Dental Days, Oslo



15–16 November

CED President and Policy Officers visit to the German Dental Days, Hamburg, Germany

21 November

CED Board meeting in Brussels, Belgium

22 November

CED General meeting in Brussels, Belgium



17 December

CED at the European Medicines Agency Healthcare Professionals Policy Officers Group meeting

Policy

CED Statement on Waste Management and Sustainability in Dentistry

In this document, the CED highlights the need to work together to improve oral and overall health to reduce the number of curative treatments and lower the pollution caused by medicine residues and travel movements. The Statement highlights that manufacturers play a vital role in promoting sustainable waste management in dentistry, by developing eco-friendly and recyclable dental products, reducing the environmental impact of their materials. It also underlines that policies regulating waste management strategies for healthcare practices should guarantee that such strategies remain proportionate and realistic, and do not introduce any significant financial and administrative burdens on dental practices. The CED insists on the need to avoid excessive bureaucratic burden for dental practices that qualify as small and micro enterprises at all costs.

CED Statement on Corporate Dentistry and the Dental Profession

The CED Statement on corporate dentistry was developed alongside guidelines destined to inform young professionals highlighting the current existence and functioning of corporate dentistry in various available professional pathways.

Corporate dentistry has been on the rise in Europe and is likely going to remain a reality among many European countries. As such, with this document, the CED wishes to outline its stance on corporate dentistry and its core principles in relation to the current and future corporate dentistry status quo. While the CED recognizes and acknowledges that corporate model of dentistry will remain present in the field of the dental profession, the CED constantly highlights that delivery of oral health services, regardless of its organizational form, has to be subjected to high ethical and professional standards, to ensure that financial profit is not working against patients' care and health, and against the professional wellbeing of dentists.

CED document “Supporting and informing young dentists in relation to corporate dentistry”

The CED prepared this guideline document to serve as a frame for national dental chambers and associations, highlighting some of the main principles for ensuring that young dentists are informed and aware of the topic of corporate dentistry at their respective national level. Corporate dentistry chains have been on the rise in many European countries. These chains therefore often seek qualified workforce and dental practitioners, and often target young dental graduates as well as dental students, for future work opportunities. This reality is particularly relevant in light of growing reduced interest and barriers involved in setting up private dental practices.

CED updated statement on Medical Devices Regulation and chairside CAD/CAM procedures: right of dentists not to be defined as manufacturers

The use of CAD/CAM system is an integrated part of the treatment process, guided, determined and followed up on by the dentist, as the leader of the dental team and as the responsible healthcare professional for the patient. It is therefore imperative to ensure that dentists maintain their undeniable right to own and use a CAD/CAM system for their patients.

As such, the document, initially developed in 2018, was updated and provided direct reference to the definition of health institutions (as outlined per the Medical Devices Regulation, Article 2(36) - 'Definitions').

Working Groups



Dr. Edoardo Cavallé
(Italy) Chair

Working Group Dental Materials and Medical Devices

In 2024, WG DMMD continued prioritizing the topic of medical devices and specifically the Medical Devices Regulation. Members of the WG DMMD attended specific interviews in relation to key aspects of the regulation - e.g., on governance, and on availability of medical devices. Our members actively contributed with examples of their experiences on the matter from a national perspective.

We continued discussing the issue of CAD/CAM and the role of dentists, resulting in our “Updated CED Statement on Medical Devices Regulation and chairside CAD/CAM procedures: right of dentists not to be defined as manufacturers”, which was adopted at the CED General Meeting of November 2024.

The WG also continued engaging on other topics, such as adverse reactions reporting and various dental materials. In 2025, we continue focusing on the Medical Devices Regulation, in light of ongoing consultations and workshops on the issue.



Dr. Alexander Tolmeijer
(Netherlands) Chair
– until Nov 2024

Working Group eHealth

In 2024, the Working Group continued focusing on developments in eHealth policy at the EU level, prioritising issues such as health data, and restarting its discussion on artificial intelligence (AI).

On AI, the WG began preliminary discussions on updating the existing “CED Resolution on Artificial Intelligence in Dentistry” from 2020, with the goal of having a document ready for the May 2025 General Meeting. In addition to that outgoing Chair Alexander Tolmeijer took part in an interview conducted by a consultancy on behalf of the European Commission in relation to “Study on the economic impact of applying Artificial Intelligence in healthcare in Europe”. Chair Tolmeijer highlighted issues of importance to the dental profession such as the problems and status quo outlined in the “CED Position on ‘Direct to Consumer Orthodontics’, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Dentistry”.



Dr. Peter Kukulík
(Slovakia) Chair
– from Nov 2024

On health data, the Working Group continued following the European Health Data Space (EHDS) updates, while also highlighting the priorities on the file for the dental profession: 1) realistic timelines for implementation, 2) removal of financial and administrative burdens for healthcare professionals, 3) dental practices that qualify as small and micro enterprises alike will face challenges with secondary data obligations. In 2025, the Working Group, under the new Chairmanship of Peter Kukulík, will remain engaged on the EHDS, boost its activities on AI and also focus further on the topic of cybersecurity in light of newly launched initiatives such as the European Commission Action Plan on Cybersecurity for Hospitals and Healthcare Professionals.



Dr. Nuala Carney
(Ireland) Chair
– until May 2024

Working Group Education and Professional Qualifications

Ongoing consultations on clinical training requirements and on the subject list of Annex V of the Professional Qualifications Directive, shaped the work of Working Group Oral Health for the first half of 2024.

The Working Group carried out a survey, at the end of 2023 and the beginning of 2024, on Dental Diplomas delivered within the European Union. This survey assessed the issue of dental diplomas acquired in the European Union and the level of clinical training within European undergraduate dental education, also addressing the linking concern to the automatic recognition of diplomas and free movement of dental professionals.



Prof. Dr. Katalin Nagy
(Hungary) Chair
– from May 2024

The results of the survey were used to develop a CED common response to the European Commission (EC) consultation on the update of training requirements for the professional qualifications of nurses, pharmacists and dental practitioners. The CED's main concerns highlighted the outdated nature of Annex V and the included contemporary competences, skills and techniques. The CED then provided its reaction, through a letter shared with the European Commission, to the published Delegated Act on "Recognising the professional qualifications of nurses, pharmacists & dental practitioners: updated training requirements". The Working Group, following the completion of the consultation, highlighted the frail language around "suitable clinical experience" included in the Delegated Act and the need for amending this language to include more robust clinical training requirements.

The Working Group was then given the opportunity to frame and advance detailed CED positions around clinical training requirements when preparing input to the European Commission consultation for the preparation of the implementation report of the Professional Qualifications Directive, submitted in September and to be published in 2025. The Working Group will continue to monitor advancements and updates on this important legislative file and engage, where possible, in clarifying and strengthening harmonised clinical training requirements.

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Dr. Vasileios Stathopoulos
(Greece) Chair

Working Group Oral Health

Following the update of the Working Group's mandate in 2023, the different topics were divided into 6 separate workstreams in 2024. We therefore focused on dividing the work between engaged members for improved efficiency and efficacy, with workstreams dedicated to the respective priority topics of oral health and general health, integrated care and special care, universal health coverage, tobacco, antimicrobial resistance and sugar.

The Working Group therefore initiated work on updating three CED Resolutions on Antimicrobial Resistance, Sugar and Tobacco, as well as beginning work on the development of a paper on Ageing and Oral Health and initiating the first stages of updating the 2011 CED Resolution on CED Resolution 'For Better Oral Health of All EU Citizens: Mutual Integration of Oral and General Health!', to be developed in 2025.

Additionally, the Working Group remained actively engaged in 2024 in international stakeholder groups and meetings, with on-going participation in the second edition of the Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections (EU-JAMRAI), the European Commission AMR One Health Network, the Coalition for Vaccination, and the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) AMR Stakeholder Network Group.

Lastly, the CED continued to regularly participate in the European Medicines Agency's (EMA) online eligible Healthcare Professionals Learned Societies Policy Officers' Group meetings and joined the INTERCEPTOR (Interception of Oral Cancer) Cost Action Consortium event held in January on "Leveraging EU initiatives for the development of new approaches to oral cancer prevention".

The Working Group will develop and pursue its advocacy efforts in the field of oral health advancement in 2025.



Prof. Dr. Ioannis Tzoutzas
(Greece) Chair

Working Group Patient Safety, Infection Control and Waste Management

In 2024, the WG PSICWM prioritized the topic of vaccinations. CED members' national contributors to the questionnaire "Vaccination policies for dentists and other dental professionals in Europe" (disseminated in 2023) were approached for final clarifications and validations to their replies. In cooperation with the Directorate for Research, Studies, and Documentation, National Public Health Organization, Athens, Greece, a paper for publication under the title Vaccination Policies for dentists and other dental professionals in Europe has been prepared by the WG Chair, based among others, on the information from the vaccination questionnaire.

In the first part of the year, the WG re-opened the work on a "CED Statement on waste management and sustainability in dentistry", which aims to ensure that the dental profession engages in the discussion on waste management in a proactive and timely manner and that it can respond to new legislative and regulatory initiatives that may impose restrictions and conditions to the dental office. The statement was successfully adopted during the May 2024 GM.

In 2025, the WG will continue focusing on issues of importance to patient safety, infection control and waste management.

Task Forces



Dr. Anna Lella
(Poland) Chair

Task Force Internal Market

In 2024, the BTF IM prioritized work on the topic of corporate dentistry. As such, the BTF developed two specific documents: 1) a document offering advice and supporting national dental associations in relation to raising awareness and educating students and young dentists about the possible ways of exercising the profession and 2) a document (political statement) on corporate dentistry and its various aspects to be taken into consideration.

Both texts were successfully adopted at the November 2024 General Meeting.

The BTF also continued engaging on workforce challenges, as well as on specific issues such as the Proportionality Test Directive and partial access.

In 2025, work related to workforce challenges from the perspective of dentistry will continue to be a priority for the BTF IM. We will continue relying on input from national members, as we develop the necessary policy documents in the field of internal market.



Task Force Communications

In 2024, the CED focused on developing preparatory work for re-launching of the CED newsletter in the course of 2025. We also published the 2023 CED Annual Report.

CED Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is composed of eight members, elected by the General Meeting every three years. The Board carries out political leadership and secures proper and efficient administration of the CED.



Dr. Freddie Sloth-Lisbjerg
President (Denmark)



Dr. Anna Lella
Vice-President (Poland)



Prof. Dr. Ioannis Tzoutzas
Treasurer (Greece)



Dr. Romy Ermler
Board Member (Germany)
-from Nov 2024



Dr. Robin Foyle
Board Member (Ireland)



Dr. Charlotte Heuzé
Board Member (France)



Dr. Miguel Pavão
Board Member (Portugal)



Dr. Katalin Nagy
Board Member (Hungary)



Dr. Henner Bunke
Board Member (Germany)
-until Nov 2024

CED Secretariat

The CED Secretariat monitors policy developments, maintains contacts with the European Institutions and stakeholders and implements the decisions taken by the General Meeting and the Board of Directors.



Ainhoa Zamacona
Office Manager



Nikoleta Arnaudova
Senior Policy Officer



Daniela Timus
Policy Officer
– until Jan 2024



Clara Luciani
Policy Officer
– from Apr 2024

CED Activities

Published CED Manifesto for new EU Mandate

In light of the 2024 European elections and the kick-start to the new EU Mandate 2024–2029, the CED prepared a Manifesto to highlight the dental profession's key priorities and recommendations for policy-makers. We firmly believe that by working together with decision-makers, we can help strengthen and improve citizens' oral health and therefore public health across Europe. We remain a committed and engaged partner to EU policy-makers and we wish to strongly underline the importance of collaborating with dentists for a healthy and resilient EU in this new mandate and beyond.

The Manifesto underlines three main pillars, including prioritising patient safety and oral health across Europe, ensuring that EU policy works for a balanced European dentist workforce, as well as safeguarding digital future that does not impede the profession of delivery of care.

Find out more and access the full version of the CED Manifesto by using the following QR code:



European Manual of Dental Practice

The Manual of Dental Practice, with data collection work launched in 2022, is currently being updated. The decision was taken in 2024 to extend the scope of the Manual to the wider European region, in collaboration with the European Regional Organisation (ERO) of the World Dental Federation (FDI).

Members, Affiliate Members & Observers



Albania



Austria



Belgium — CMD



Belgium — VVT



Germany



Greece



Hungary — Dental Section of the Hungarian Medical Chamber



Hungary — Hungarian Dental Association



Bulgaria



Croatia



Cyprus



Czech Republic



Iceland



Ireland



Italy — AIO



Italy — ANDI



Denmark



Estonia



Finland



France



Latvia



Lithuania



Luxembourg



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