

Regional European Organization of the FDI

National Report

Country: ESTONIA

Association: Estonian Dental Association

Venue: ERO meeting in Geneva

Year: 2016

I. Changes in the association and its organization.

New board was elected 04.11.2017 (3-years period)

Marek Vink – president

Piret Väli – vice-president

Kristina Kiisa

Regina Kuningas-Ott

Martin Martma

Katrin Metstak

Rita Nõmmela

Mare Saag

Taavo Seedre

Eva Vakra

II. Trends and developments:

- In professional politics;
 - i. Certification of competencies for medical doctors and dentists has been a major issue for discussions
 - ii. Discussion about the need to change the limited possibility to prescribe medicines for patients by dentists is leading to a change in the legislation
 - iii. Development of professional standards for dental assistants
 - iv. Amalgam separators will be required for all dental units starting 2018
 - v. Oral health project “Dental health in children”, financed by Health Insurance Fund has been carried out.
- Web-page was designed: www.suukool.ee

- vi. International oral health day (March 20) was carried out in schools and kindergartens supported by this web page in 2016. Oral health week campaign has been carried out in TV program and on the screens of shopping malls, dental clinics and city transport 14.-20.03. Twice radio broadcast was used. Special stickers and awards for children were produced.
- In health politics;
 - i. Endless negotiations with the politicians about the terms of providing reimbursement for the adult population and introducing a non-acceptable, non cost-related pricelist for dental services
 - ii. Collaboration in the process of renewing the law on radiation protection in medicine
 - iii. Negotiations with the Ministry of Social Affairs, concerning changes in the law of health insurance
- In educational politics;
 - i. EDA recognizes the need to start educating dental assistants, initiating negotiations with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Ministry of Education and Science. Tallinn Health Care College has agreed to start it in 2018
- In the insurance system.
 - i. List of treatment procedures and fees for dental services has been under revision (2015-2016) by the Health Insurance Fund (Public) in order to more exactly reflect the cost of dentistry and to serve better citizens in the limited resources condition.
The calculated new fees for dental services have been introduced starting 01.01.2017. There is a law about introducing non-monetary reimbursement for dental treatment for adults (annually 30 Euros, which comprises 50% from 60 Euros invoice, compiled according to the Health Insurance fee level). For retired and disabled people it will be 85 Euros from a 100 Euro bill annually). The calculated fees for treatment procedures are not really cost-related. There will be new contracts with dental clinics concerning this financial change starting from July 1, 2017.

There is no private dental insurance in Estonia

III. Further information (activities, concerns).

- Estonian Annual Dental Meeting held on 25-27.08. 2016 , in Tallinn was a great success with 571 dentists, 285 auxiliaries (1270 total). The scientific program (29 lecturers) was accompanied by dental exhibition with 73 companies presenting their products.
- Position papers accepted by the General Assamblee have been introduced during the local dental meetings
- Estonian Dental Association's Summerschool in Saaremaa 12.08-13.08. 2016
- 8 board meetings and two council meetings (April 8, November 4) have been held
- Editing professional journal "Hambaarst" (The Estonian Dentist)
- Two conferences for Estonian Dentists
 - i. Conference "Contemporary dentistry" supported by FDI, on March 4, 2016 in Tartu with dr Murali Srinivasan form the University of Geneva as sponsored by FDI lecturer
 - ii. Conference on the occasion of 95th anniversary of the Estonian Dental Association, 25.11. 2016 in Tallinn

February, 6 2017

Professor Mare Saag
Estonian Dental Association, board member
University of Tartu, Head of the Institute of Dentistry