

Regional European Organisation of the FDI National Report

Country: FRANCE

Association: Association dentaire française, ADF

Venue: GENEVE **Year :** 2017

I. Changes in the association and its organisation

The Association Dentaire Française renewed its governing bodies in April 2016. Joël TROUILLET and Jean-Patrick DRUO were reappointed as secretaries-general for a further three-year term.

II. Trends and developments

In professional politics

Dental assistants are now registered with the Public Health Code, alongside ambulance attendants. This profession becomes paramedical, but without the possibility of self-entrepreneurship, governed by a decree defining the activities to be carried out and the conditions:

- Assistance of the practitioner in the realization of gestures before, during and after care
- Reception and communication with patients
- Information and education of patients in the field of oral health
- Maintenance of the health care environment and of equipment related to activities and management of infectious risk
- Management and follow-up of the patient's file
- Collection, transmission of information in written and oral form and implementation of traceability within the framework of the health care structure
- Welcome, support of dental assistants in training or newcomers in the structure, and improvement of professional practices.

In health politics

New “Convention” negotiations were opened in September 2016, which were to end at the end of January 2017 with the signing of an amendment No.4. At the end of several meetings in which the parties could not agree, the three unions representing the profession, of which CNSD is the leader in terms of members, rejected the proposed amendment, notably considering that the tariff revisions (the rate of which is fixed) proposed by the Health Insurance were too insufficient compared to the level of the proposed ceilings of the prosthesis fees, which are today the adjustment variable to balance the costs of the liberal dental practices.

This failure of negotiations led the Minister of Health to set up an arbitration procedure, the rules of which were published in the Official Journal on 31 March, even more unfavorable to the profession than the text of the amendment which had been originally proposed.

On March 3, 2017, the entire dental sector (about 10.000 dentists, dental assistants, dental technicians and students) had demonstrated in Paris in vain to protest against the implementation of this arbitration settlement.

As soon as the regulation was published in the Official Journal, a CNSD plan was immediately put in place to fight against this unfair text, which will impede freedom of exercise and lead to the closure of dental clinics. Three lines of action will be concomitantly developed: (i) legal remedies to abolish arbitration; (ii) policy actions for the future Government (to be elected in May) to reverse these provisions; and (iii) step-by-step mobilization of the profession.

In educational politics

Initial training

Private education/Pessoa - Le CLESI: In two judgments of 27 September 2016, the Aix-en-Provence Court of Appeal ordered the CLESI association to discontinue its courses in the field of dentistry. It is the struggle of the whole profession (students and practicing dentists) supported by the inter-professional organizations, which is rewarded today.

Unfortunately, a new institution called the "Ecole Supérieure d'Etudes Médicales" (Medical School) immediately took over, revealing on its website "5 reasons for studying medicine without a competition from PACES" (official national competition), proposing for the dental curriculum, 2 years in Dublin in French, followed by three years in Porto or Lisbon in Portuguese language.

Continuing education

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In the insurance system

Public health insurance

See above "health politics".

III. Further information (activities, concerns ...)

Low-Cost Centers:

After the proliferation of complaints from abused patients (over-treatments, mutilations, scams ...), and the various alerts launched by the profession with the public authorities and the media, the association Dentexia has been placed in judicial liquidation and its 5 low-cost centers have been closed.

The 2000 victims listed to date will benefit from an exceptional indemnity from the Health Insurance. The CNSD had previously prepared a practical outline and a form to help practitioners carry out a clinical assessment and a findings' record of abused patients.

The 2017 edition of the ADF congress will take place from Tuesday 28 November to Saturday 2 December 2017 at the Palais des Congrès in Paris, Porte Maillot, on the theme "Fundamentals, source of serenity".