



## FRANCE National Report

### ERO Plenary Session – Yerevan – April 2010

#### HEALTH REFORM

The government Bill “Hôpital, Patients, Santé et Territoires (HPST)” (hospitals, patients, health and local authorities) announced in 2008, which caused great concern among health professionals, was finally adopted and published in the Official Gazette (*Journal officiel*) on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2009. The reform, which was initially introduced to modernise the French hospital system, will in fact lead to the sacrifice of private practice, from both a financial and a structural point of view.

The President of the French Republic having required that the full 150 application decrees be published in the Official Gazette before 31<sup>st</sup> July 2010, the dental profession, which remains extremely vigilant, particularly through its various unions (among which the CNSD), is taking an active part in the discussions, despite the difficulty of organising real consultations in such a short time.

Another Public Health law will be discussed in 2010 to complete the reform. The French dental unions will enter into discussions with the French Health Insurance Fund (*Assurance maladie*) to negotiate the future National Oral Health Agreement.

#### MANDATORY CONTINUING EDUCATION

The HPST Act has introduced a new Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme which replaces the previous Continuing Education (CE) system. The organisation of continuing education by the profession, as has been the case since the year 2000, is under threat, since the HPST Act requires that continuing education be under State control, making the State and the French Health Insurance the decision-makers in all related matters.

#### SWINE FLU VACCINATION CAMPAIGN

France, similarly to many other countries, has had to deal with a recrudescence in the number of cases of Swine Flu. On 17<sup>th</sup> September 2009, the French government declared a state of pandemic, which was widely covered by the media in alarmist reports.

The dental profession, which had not previously been included in the vaccination campaign, was eventually declared a priority population group by the French Ministry of health, at the instigation of the ADF French Dental Association.

All vaccination centres were shut down in February, after fewer than 3 million French people had been vaccinated – 94 million vaccine doses had been ordered by the French State. WHO figures show that 323 people died from Swine Flu in France.

#### ADF/FRENCH DENTAL COUNCIL COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN

The French National communication campaign “Rire, Aimer, Manger” (Laugh, Love, Eat) designed to enhance the image of the dental profession was launched in October 2009 at the initiative of the ADF and the French Dental Council (*Conseil National de l'Ordre des Chirurgiens-dentistes*). The aim of this wide-scale campaign was

to change the way the general public, patients, and decision-makers see the profession and to put forward the dentist's societal role and positive impact on the everyday life of the French population.

### **SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS**

Four new brochures in the topical series "Les Dossiers de l'ADF" were published in 2009:

- Topical Treatments in Dentistry
- OSA and Snoring: from the Detection of the Syndrome to the Placement of a Mandibular Advancement Device
- Medical Emergencies in the Dental Surgery
- The Positive List of Dental Disinfectants – 2009 Edition

More information is available on the ADF website in the section "Continuing professional education > ADF publications > Les Dossiers de l'ADF > Dossiers 2009"

### **ADF MULTIMEDIA TRAINING TOOLS**

**Online training modules to help practitioners keep up to date – [www.adfcongres.com](http://www.adfcongres.com)** – The ADF proposes free online training modules based on the scientific sessions of the annual ADF Conference. Over 60 modules are now available, each of which comprises a full slide show with the speaker's comments, followed by a set of multiple-choice questions to help practitioners check their knowledge.

**Le JT de l'ADF (The ADF News programme) – [www.jtadf.fr](http://www.jtadf.fr)** – Each month, the dental profession is invited to watch on the Internet the full version of a live clinical demonstration filmed during one of the ADF Annual Conferences. Two-weeks later, a one-hour-long ADF News programme is broadcast live on the web – the first part addresses a topical issue relating to the dental profession, while during the second part, the practitioner filmed in the live clinical demonstration answers the questions asked by viewers before or during the programme.

### **ADF 2010 DENTAL CONFERENCE AND TRADE EXHIBITION**

The ADF 2010 Conference and Trade Exhibition will be held at the Palais des Congrès de Paris from 23<sup>rd</sup> until 27<sup>th</sup> November. The main topic this year will be "At the Heart of Life".

### **CNSD CONGRESS AND BOARD ELECTIONS**

In May 2009, the CNSD elected a new Executive Board, with Roland L'Herron as President and Catherine Mojaïsky as Secretary General.