

## NATIONAL REPORT 2010

Country: Switzerland  
Organisation: Swiss Dental Association SSO  
Meetings: ERO Meeting of 29th/30th April 2010 in Yerevan  
CED Meeting of 28th/29th May 2010 in St Jacques de Compostela

**Switzerland is still object of an immigration of dentists from the European community.**

### I. Changes in the National Association and their structures

None

### II. Trends and developments

#### - Immigration of dentists from the European Union

The free circulation of persons that entered in force to Switzerland on June 1, 2002 still has disquieting effects on the immigration. Until the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 the Federal Office of Public Health has recognised **2317 diplomas** of dentists out of the European Union countries, which is a number equivalent to about 50% of the dentists practising in Switzerland. This phenomenon never occurred before and creates a discomfort among the resident dentists and provokes tension.

#### - Review of VAT law

The new VAT law will enter in force on 1.1.2010. The limit value subdue to the tax has been fixed on CHF 100'000 of the turnover attained by dental services subject to taxation: auxiliary orthodontic elements, dental technician's services for orthodontic devices and dentures, medicines and auxiliary dentals means, prophylaxis articles, aesthetic services, provision of personnel for third parties, rental of infrastructure.

**- Feminisation of the profession**

During the last twenty years, the proportion of female students in dentistry has never stopped to grow. The « feminisation » has passed from about 25% to more than 50%; which leads to the conclusion that women are not sufficiently represented in the institutions of our professional organisation.

**III. Modifications in the insurance system**

**- Register of health professions (MEDREG)**

The register of health professions, a data base of the Federal office of Public Health, the professional associations and the cantonal public health authorities will be made public on 1.1.2010. It includes the specialist titles and postgraduate certificates.

**- Insurance card**

As from 2010, the health insurance companies are recommended to put at the disposal of their insured persons the new electronic insurance card. There was a strong opposition against this card regarding its start-up costs and data confidentiality.

**IV. Modifications of the tariff**

The reform of the tariffs for dental services is still in a deadlock. Only the tariff for the services of dental technicians has been modified without consent of the dentists and without a legal basis  
The result is a confusing situation for all acting partner in the health sector.

**V. Further information :**

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