



TURKISH DENTAL ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL REPORT FOR 2008

Country	:	Turkey
Association	:	Turkish Dental Association
Venue of the ERO-meeting	:	ROMA, ITALY
Year of the ERO-meeting	:	April 18 th -19 th , 2009

Board of Turkish Dental Association

On November 16th, 2008, Turkish Dental Association had its 12th Annual General Assembly in Ankara which was followed by the elections for a new Board of Directors, which will have a term of 2 years. The new Board Members of TDA who are in charge as of November 20th, 2008 are as follows:

TURKISH DENTAL ASSOCIATION 12TH TERM BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

Prof. Dr. Murat AKKAYA	President
Kadir Tümay İMRE	Vice President
Süha ALPAY	Secretary General
Ahmet Tarık İŞMEN	Treasurer
Cengiz TAMTUNALI	Member
Rahime DEDEOĞLU	Member
Ali GÜRLEK	Member
Bülent ÖZTÜRK	Member
Bilge ŞİMŞEK	Member
Nebil SEYFETTİN	Member
Abdullah İLKER	Member

Continuing Dental Education

A total of 180 scientific activities which were credited by the Higher Commission of Turkish Dental Association on Continuing Dental Education, took place in the year of 2008. One hundred eighteen (118) of these activities were organized by Local Dental Chambers, 3 by the Dental Faculties, 41 by Scientific Societies and 18 were held by the other institutions and foundations. From all the participants who attended to the above mentioned activities, 664 of our colleagues who completed the required credit point (75 credit points) were provided with the certificate of participation to the Continuing Education Program. The certificates are valid for two years.

Specializations

The draft regulation concerning the specialization in medicine which has been set out by the Ministry of Health is still being discussed by the drawees of the subject.

Orthodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery are approved as specialization branches in the dentistry by the Institution for Medical Specialization of the Ministry of Health

Dental Faculties

In Turkey, by the year 2008, there are twenty-four (24) Dental Faculties. Of these faculties, four of them have not accepted any students yet. As a consequence of the increase in the number of the Dental Faculties since 1990s, the number of the dentists has increased rapidly. Although the increase in population of the country is 1.5%, the increase in the number of the graduated dentists is 6%.

The number of the newly graduated dentists from the faculties in 2008 is approximately 900.

Due to the continuation of the opening of the new Dental Faculties without proper workforce planning, lack of the geographical distribution of the workforce and poor dental visits, our colleagues face a serious unemployment problem.

In addition to opening up new dental faculties, the Government is also increasing the quota of the present dental faculties. However, the physical and academic conditions of the faculties are not considered while increasing their quotas.

The Studies on Community Oral Health

The Scientific Advisory Board on Preventive Oral Health Care Program which was established in order to decrease the prevalence and the severity of the oral diseases in children by the Ministry of Health and in which Turkish Dental Association also takes part has completed the arrangements for the implementation of the “Preventive Oral Health Care Program”.

The project will be implemented in 19 pilot cities in the first classes of the primary schools during 2009-2010 educational terms.

International Congresses of Turkish Dental Association

The 15th International Congress of Turkish Dental Association was held between the dates of June 30th and July 5th, 2008 in İstanbul, Turkey with the participation of 2318 dentists. 108 companies have participated to the Expo-Dental 2008 which took place over an area of 4000m² within the scope of the Congress.

Turkish Dental Association’s 16th International Dental Congress will be held on 22 & 27 June 2009 in İstanbul.

Fees of the Dental Health Care Services

Fees of the private dental health services

The charge of the service price of the dentist in private practice is determined with the authorization given by the Turkish Dental Association Law and becomes effective after the approval of the Ministry of Health. The minimum wages for the year 2008 have been prepared and submitted however it has not been approved by the Ministry. For this reason, the minimum wages for 2007 have become valid also for 2008. In the history of Turkish Dental Association, for the first time a tariff has not been approved by the Ministry of Health.

Turkish Dental Association has completed its studies in 2006 regarding the cost analysis of dental procedures which has been carried out since 2001 and the minimum wage rate has been determined according to this cost analysis.

Fees of the public dental health care services

Implementation of performance measures for dentists who work for the public services of Ministry of Health is still continuing.

Although the public health care services were referring the oral health care of the patients to the private dentists when they are not able to complete within a specific time period, Turkish Dental Association has requested that the patients refer to the private dentists directly for the delivery of 19 dental procedures by a proposal which has been submitted to the Ministry of Health. The technical studies with regard to this issue are still ongoing between the Government and our Association.

Our Publications

We are publishing our informative Journal of Turkish Dental Association bi-monthly.

The scientific journal entitled Clinic in Dentistry is being published every three months. Our special issue which aims to serve as a reference source is being distributed for once a year.

The Journal of Turkish Dental Association and our special issues are distributed as free of charge to all of our colleagues, but the Clinic in Dentistry is distributed only to subscribers.

Mutual-Aid Fund

A mutual-aid fund has been formed in order to provide financial aid to our colleagues who are injured-harmed by the natural disasters. In 2008, five of our colleagues are supported by this mutual-aid fund.

The financing of the mutual-aid fund is made-up of the fees paid to our Local dental Chambers by our members.

Self Accident Insurance And Disability (For Service) Insurance

The self accident insurances and disability insurances of the overall member dentists of Turkish Dental Association are made by our Association. An amount of YTL equivalent to 46 USD is paid to our colleagues per day who will not be able to practice dentistry in one year – not to exceed a total of 200 days.

Trends and Developments

The General Social Security and Health Insurance Law which has been planned to gather all the social security institutions under one roof became effective gradually by 2008 although it has been opposed by the various parts of the Government.