



European Regional Organisation of  
the Fédération dentaire internationale



## The President

To the kind attention of

Mr. Donald Tusk  
Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland  
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PL 00-583 Warsaw  
POLAND

Copy to:

Mr. Bartosz Arlukowicz  
Minister for Health of the Republic of Poland

Polish Chamber of Physicians and Dentists  
President Dr. Maciej Hamankiewicz  
Vicepresident Dr. Anna Lella

Geneva, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012

### Concern: Legal regulations on prescription of medicinal products or medical devices from 01.01.2012

Your Excellency,

my letter is sent to you on behalf of the European Regional Organization of the World Dental Federation, ERO-FDI (furthermore ERO), a non-profit association established in accordance with the FDI Constitution and registered in the Canton of Geneva, Switzerland. Gathering member organizations of the FDI from the European Geographical Area as defined by the United Nations – currently 37 countries - it represents far more than half a million of dentists. ERO aims at promoting the concept of dentistry as an independent profession based on the principle of freedom of choice in the relationship between dentists and patient.

Recently ERO has been informed of the new legal regulations regarding reimbursement of pharmaceuticals, medical products and devices which came into force in Poland on 1 January 2012. Polish physicians and dentists are deeply concerned with this situation, as additional unnecessary bureaucracy does not produce any benefit for the patient, for the doctor and finally for the entire health care system. Moreover, is it unacceptable to carry the risk of severe financial penalties for situations that are issues beyond the professional's control.

ERO shares the concerns of medical and dental practitioners in Poland and wants to draw Your attention on the following adverse effects of the regulation on a long term:

- Extra administrative matters subtract treatment-time and threaten quality of care and patient-safety.
- Exposition of health care professionals to legal sanctions and increase of the individual financial risk.
- Possibility of increasing waiting lists with negative effects for the entire healthcare system.

The ERO wants to strongly support the Polish colleagues in their endeavours to aim for highest quality and efficiency of their national healthcare and encourages them to continue to deliver their expertise in the definition of adequate patient treatment to their Government.

We are sure that Your Excellency will involve the dental and medical profession in constructive negotiations in order to work out a fruitful adaptation of the regulation for the most patient-adequate healthcare of your citizens.

Yours truly,

Dr. Gerhard Konrad Seeberger

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