ERO WG Digitalisation in dentistry – E-Health – Artificial Intelligence

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The report to the ERO Board

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic prohibited us from meeting in person. However, we held online meetings. Due to myself being a part of numerous expert groups, primarily the expert group CED e-HEALTH, I think we should clearly distinguish ourselves from groups that focus on virtualizing the administrative aspect of stomatology. Otherwise, we will duplicate them only.

On the other hand, it would be useless to create similar documents as created by the CED groups, which focus mainly on politics and political proposals. Their values are probably precious even for non-EU countries but duplicating such documents would make no sense. We can send them information, maybe questioning and some targeted proposals.

My, and I hope, Group opinion is that our expert group should work as a link that connects various informational sources in this scientific and industrial field. To create a space where members of the ERO can find legislative, scientific, or formative information regarding nonscientific aspects in their area. Our vision is to create a foundation via a website which could belong under the ERO system. We would then regularly share and update all information regarding digital stomatology and artificial intelligence in stomatology. In Czechia, we would create an app; we will do the maintenance here with all costs and actualizations.

Therefore, the aim is to create a platform that will function as a medium for sharing essential information about current possibilities in diagnostics, therapy proposals (including their presentation), and the therapy itself using digital and robotized dentistry. All countries that are members of the ERO and possibly all stomatologists (sorry for eastern terminology - dentists and maxillofacial surgeons) would have the opportunity to find positional documents and necessary information. The ERO could approve some of the companies' advertisements if they wish to ensure feasibility (it is not a condition). In-person meetings are essential; however, it would be best to incorporate a more extensive audience from fellow countries gradually. The key is to organize at least twice a year, ideally annually, a congress which would unite experts on this issue within the ERO. Congress would include both legislative and scientific meetings. Individual groups should cover all known applications. The goal is not only to present the hot topics from this field, but our aim is also to introduce that information to countries which are less advanced in such
matters. We can try to find scientific conclusions and recommendations. According to the local situation, those will be presented to the ERO and can be taken home and incorporated by each country's delegates.

If the ERO management decides, our group can immediately begin with creating a platform for gathering information; publishing said reports and organizing specific groups and a wider variety of practitioners. We will be working closely with the CED on documents regarding positional and political statements, which are finalized, and it would therefore make no sense to copy and duplicate such records. Conversely, we can form expert questions, which can then be solved by the CED on an EU level and simultaneously inspire non-fellow countries, which would consequently receive documents which would enable them to work within their own countries' legislative.

Recent upgrades:
1/ New proposal for web presentation
2/ WG has to speak about all proposals from comparable WG groups (CED)-comment on them, and give them a web for inspiration

Roman Šmucler

Prague, April 2022