

ERO working group “Relations between dental practitioners and universities”

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Project 2022-2023

The transition from a dental student to a practitioner - is there anything missing?



Dental Students' and Dental School Graduates' Practical Skills: An International Survey of Perceptions of National Dental Associations in Europe

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Purpose: Dental students learn knowledge and practical skills to provide oral health care to the population. Practical skills must be maintained or continuously developed throughout a professional career. This cross-sectional survey aimed to evaluate the perception of practical skills of dental students and dental-school graduates by national dental associations (NDAs) in international comparison in the European Regional Organization of the FDI World Dental Federation (ERO-FDI) zone.

Materials and Methods: A questionnaire of 14 items collected information on pre-/postgraduate areas.

Results: A total of 25 countries participated (response rate: 69.4%), with 80.0% having minimum requirements for practical skills acquisition and 64.0% starting practical training in the 3rd year of study. In countries where clinical practical work on patients begins in the 2nd year of study, practical skills of graduates are perceived as average, starting in the 3rd year of study as mainly good, starting in the 4th as varying widely from poor to very good. In total, 76.0% of respondents feel that improvements are needed before entering dental practice. Improvements could be reached by treating more patients in dental school (32.0%), increasing the quantity of clinical training (20.0%), or having more clinical instructors (12.0%). In 56.0% of the countries, it is possible to open one's own dental practice immediately after graduation, and in 16.0%, prior vocational training is mandatory.

Conclusions: All participating countries in the ERO-FDI zone reported practical training in dental school, most starting in the 3rd year of study. The perception of practical skills of dental students and dental-school graduates among NDAs is very heterogeneous. Reasons for the perceived deficiencies should be further explored.

Key words: dental association, graduate, international, practical skills, student

Interprofessional education and collaborative practice in dentistry (Project 2019-2021)

An article is on the finish line.

So far, a statement has been published on the ERO web page.

Project 2023 -2025

Collaboration between NDAs and dental faculties

The aim of the study is to evaluate changes in the areas of collaboration between dental faculties and NDAs within the FDI-ERO zone, with particular interest on identification of the areas requiring improved partnership

- › Dental workforce issues
- › Sharing responsibilities of providing CE
- › Development of undergraduate dental curriculum
- › Negotiations with authorities regarding economical and political matters

Collaboration between NDAs and dental faculties

Activities

- › In person meeting in Bratislava , December 8-9, 2023
- › Zoom group meetings
- › Sent to NDA-s in ERO member countries in February
- › Recirculation 11th of March

Thank you for your contribution!

Albania; Armenia; Austria; Azerbaijan, Belgium;
Bulgaria; Croatia; Czech Republic; Estonia;
France; Germany; Greece; Israel; Italy; Kyrgyzstan;
North Macedonia; Netherland; Poland; Portugal;
Romania; Russia; Slovakia; Slovenia; Spain;
Ukraine; Uzbekistan

Missing responses



Project to be discussed

Organization and regulation of orthodontic specialization in the ERO member countries.

To evaluate how the organization and regulation of orthodontic specialization and the training of orthodontic specialists are managed in the member countries of the European Regional Organization of the FDI

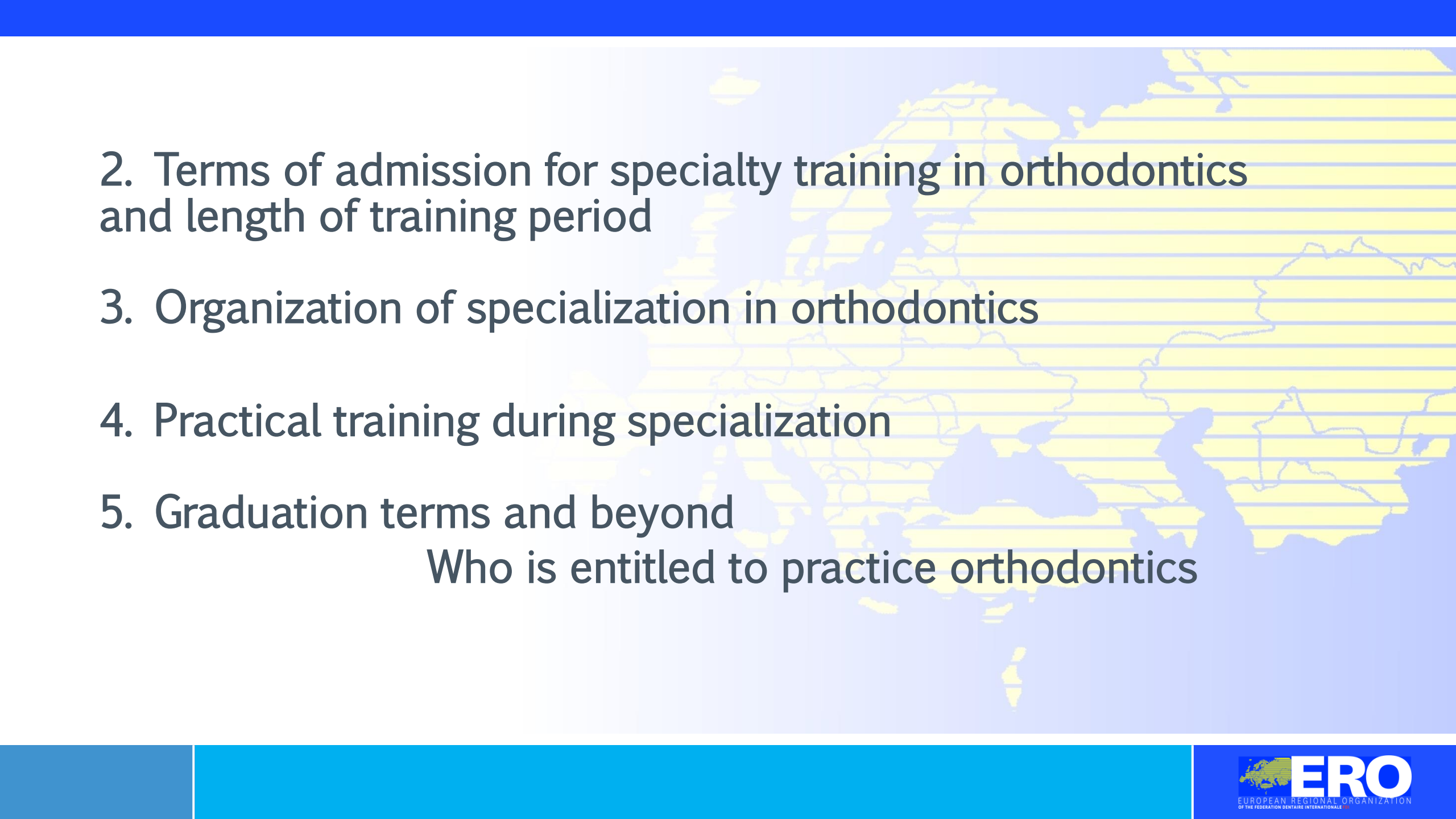
Subtopics to be explored are

1. General issues concerning orthodontic care in different countries

Recognition of specialty

Training regulations

Treatment coverage by insurance

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2. Terms of admission for specialty training in orthodontics and length of training period
 3. Organization of specialization in orthodontics
 4. Practical training during specialization
 5. Graduation terms and beyond
Who is entitled to practice orthodontics

Thank you!

