

FDI European Regional Organisation - National Report

## France's report for 2023

**\* French Dental Association (ADF) \***

### Changes within the association and in its organisation

No

### Trends and developments

#### Professional policy

##### Agreement

On 21 July 2023, signature of a new 5-year agreement between the professional associations, the health insurance scheme and the supplementary insurance schemes, with implementation beginning in February 2024.

Major areas of focus (over 5 years) :

- Investment in prevention and conservative care, to improve the use of preventive care among children, adolescents and young adults, with the aim of creating the first "cavity-free generation". The target age group for implementation is 3 to 24 years old (increase in treatment prices + 30%; 100% reimbursement of fluoride varnishes, etc.).
- Price increases for conservative treatments and ceilings for C2S basket prosthesis prices (UHC system)
- 100% reimbursement of zirconia crowns on molars and zirconia base bridges
- Creation of a "White Consultation" for disabled patients
- Better management of periodontal care for patients with chronic diseases (inclusion of 5 new diseases)
- Creation of a specific oral check-up on entry into EHPAD (elderly people's home)
- Annual dental check-ups for children aged 3 to 18, with 100% cover for consecutive treatments
- Introduction of a new methodology for territorial zoning of dental care provision, with incentives (to maintain or create a practice) and regulatory measures for areas where there are too many practitioners.

## Dental Chains

For many years, there has been an uncontrolled proliferation of essentially low-cost dental chains, leading to a number of health scandals. As a result, a law has been passed (19 May 2023) introducing strict controls on dental chains, from their creation to their closure, including annual monitoring of all their activities.

In addition, following 10 years of legal proceedings (Court of Cassation ruling of 8 March 2023), low-cost dental chain have been banned from all advertising.

## Dental team

### Dental assistant – Level 2

The “Rist Act” of 19 May 2023 created the profession Dental assistant Level 2 (ADQ2). All the skills, training and assessment paths will be defined from 2024 (an estimated 2 years of work).

Only dental assistant Level 1 will be able to progress to level 2. The ADQ2 will carry out delegated tasks (prophylaxis, radiology, cleaning...), will work like the ADQ1 under the responsibility and effective control of the practitioner and their number will be limited to 1 ADQ2 for 1 practitioner present in the care structure.

## Education - Training

### Periodic certification

The periodic certification of all healthcare professionals, which has been effective by law since 01/01/23, continues its gradual roll-out within a scope that is currently being set by decree, with its 4 defined axes:

- Improving knowledge and skills
- Improving the quality of practices
- Improving relations with patients
- Taking better account of the professional's personal health

The CNP (national professional council of dentist) has been tasked with appointing a professional commission representing all the components of our profession (ADF, scientific societies, trade unions), which is responsible for drawing up the training pathway reference documents. As soon as these have been adopted by the public authorities, they will be distributed to all dentists, who will be able to fulfil their training obligation as part of the periodic certification introduced by the Order of 19 July 2021.

The process of structuring the reference systems currently being drafted is based on the following stages:

- Situation analysis to identify needs and obligations
- Definition of expectations, which may be expressed in terms of objectives or skills
- Definition of the types of actions and how they are assessed.

All training courses must be recorded in an individual account, and the CNP will monitor compliance with this obligation.

Even if everything is not yet in place, the 6-year timeframe from 01/01/23 remains the same, with all training or CPD activities already carried out being taken into account from that date.

The ADF is involved in training throughout the year (congresses-CPD-publications) and through the CNP and the professional commission, the ADF plays an active part in the success of certification for the safety of care and greater efficiency of the healthcare system in the current context of constant changes in knowledge and techniques.

### **Information about World Oral Health Day**

On 20 March 2023, the world celebrates World Oral Health Day, and to mark the occasion, the Union Française pour la Santé Bucco-Dentaire (UFSBD) has launched the second season of its popular series entitled "Mon dentiste m'a dit".

The series is available on YouTube and distributed via various social networks such as Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and many others.

From 20 to 25 March, a new episode of this captivating series was published every day. Comprising 6 informative videos, the series offers detailed tutorials on good oral hygiene practices. It retains the humorous tone that made the first season such a success, with a patient giving an entertaining account of the methods developed by the UFSBD to encourage the essential daily gestures that keep you smiling.

These videos have also been widely distributed to the press to reach a wide audience, and have been shared with political representatives to raise awareness of the importance of oral health in the context of general health.

### **Other information**

- The ADF Congress

The 2023 ADF Congress was held from Tuesday 26 November to Saturday 2 December 2023 at the Palais des Congrès de Paris, Porte Maillot.

Over 5 days, 28,640 people attended the conference, including 5,897 trainees, or 20.6% of visitors. The vast majority were practicing practitioners (15,070). The number of foreign participants also increased, with a France/International rate of: 85.27 % /14.73 % thanks to the establishment of partnerships or cooperation with Lebanon, Dubai, Canada and privileged link with the member countries of the ORE and the FDI ... With this in mind, the ADF Congress will continue to welcome speakers from different countries in order to further develop its international dimension.

It confirmed the status of 1<sup>er</sup> European dental congress for this annual meeting of the dental profession, with its 320 exhibitors on 12,400 m<sup>2</sup> of stands and the opportunity to learn from internationally renowned speakers, with a choice of almost 110 scientific sessions led by more than 400 lecturers.

Another **highlight** of the conference was the **presentation of digital training simulators**. In a dedicated area on the first level, two unique approaches were previewed: virtual prescription simulators on the subject of antibiotic resistance and 2 haptic clinical simulators. In this way, the ADF is continuing its mission to open up new opportunities for the profession to train, enhance its knowledge and perfect its clinical practice.

Initiatives and innovations serving our profession were praised, with the **new 2024 Product of the Year award in** the equipment category (Heka I+ from Heka Dental) and consumables category (Biodentine XP from Septodont). A *special ADF Sustainable Development prize* was awarded to Biotech Dental for the collection and recycling of its aligners.

Finally, the ADF continued to organise free diabetes screening on a dedicated stand, to enable all our professionals to take stock of their health.

**Mark your calendars! The next ADF Congress will be held from Tuesday 26 to Saturday 30 November 2024.**

- Training

The ADF, through its training structure (ADFDPC-Formation), offers a number of online training courses to help validate practitioners' three-year continuing professional development (CPD) obligation.

- Oral dermatology
- Dental traumatology
- Integrating periodontics more effectively into daily practice
- Bonding and adhesion
- Treatment of the totally edentulous patient

New themes will be addressed in 2024

- Communication

As part of its support and training mission, the ADF has put 4 "Tooth magazines" (free digital magazines) online:

- Regulations and obligations
- Eco-responsibility
- Burn out and practitioner health
- Cyber security

<https://adf.asso.fr/tooth>

- Oral health: the French deserve better

Since 2005, **the French Dental Association (ADF) and Comident** (the organisation brings together manufacturers and distributors of dental equipment, materials and new technologies for dental professionals and patients) have joined forces to bring oral health out of the public policy blind spot.

As a result of this unique coalition, reflecting a collective awareness, the ADF and Le Comident are jointly calling on government bodies to adopt a national oral health strategy. The aim is to bring oral health into the public health debate, in conjunction with the other health issues to which it is linked.

- Combating antibiotic resistance

This major public health issue is a priority for the ADF. France is the 3<sup>e</sup> biggest consumer of antibiotics in Europe, and it is vital to raise awareness in the dental profession of better prescribing practices, bearing in mind that 16% of prescriptions are made by dentists.

The ADF has developed a number of practical tools aimed at dental surgeons to raise awareness of the importance of correct antibiotic prescribing, and to help them adopt the correct practices, thereby avoiding unnecessary or ineffective prescriptions.

- a practical online guide to the rules for prescribing antibiotics in dentistry.
- a 3-minute serial game to test your knowledge and avoid the pitfalls of antibiotic prescriptions.
- a complete dossier from Tooth Magazine
- a poster to inform patients
- online training in the fight against antibiotic resistance, available since 2020: "*Knowing how to prescribe to limit antibiotic resistance*".
- interactive virtual prescription simulators with everyday clinical situations

## **Points we would like to discuss**

- Eco-responsible / sustainability actions