

Regional European Organisation of the FDI

National Report on the activities of 2023

Country: Italy

Association: AIO Italian Dental Association

Please classify your national report by following subjects:

Changes

No changes occurred

Trends and developments:

in professional politics

January

AIO clarifies the changes of the new legislation on radioprotection, which allows for control periods larger than one-year and leaves the definition of the quality criteria to the control expert in physics

February

AIO clarifies that the mandatory registration at the Italian National Institute of Statistics of dental practices as enterprises opposes the incentive politics, which does not consider dental practices. Rules for the registration will be revised.

AIO Secretary Danilo Savini opposes double registration for radioprotection on the System for the Traceability of Waste, Materials and Emission Sources (STRIMS).

March

Italian Health Minister Prof. Orazio Schillaci is the first Minister who participates and contributes to the World Oral Health Day event organized by AIO on March 20th. This event was honored also by the Representative for dentistry at the Ministry of Health, Prof. Enrico Gherlone and the President of the Italian Deans Conference, Prof. Roberto Di Lenarda.

AIO Vice-president David Rizzo presents an oral cancer screening program “AIO Oral Care – Total Care on World Oral Health Day in presence of the Health Minister.

April

AIO Secretary Danilo Savini and Director of International Affairs Stefano Colasanto meet with Senate to propose a political emphasis on oral disease prevention and liberal choice of dentist for integrative oral healthcare funds

May

New data base simplifies the transfer from the national retirement fund to the professional retirement fund thanks to the interest of AIO Secretary Ignazio Pizzo, Palermo, Italy.

Dentists are allowed to carry out any kind of esthetic procedure in the facial area by law and obtain the right to be considered for leading roles in the National Health System, up to then reserved only to specialists.

July

Dentists obtain same fiscal benefits as enterprises due to perseverance of their professional associations.

Basilicata first Italian State (Regione) to install dental emergency service by law.

October

AIO President gives interview on Artificial Intelligence reminding of the need to define the legislative situation around AI in medicine and dentistry, and to put driving AI over being afraid of AI resulting in a risk of falling into defensive medicine and dentistry.

November

AIO representatives see a Position Paper on AI at Council of European Dentists after flagging the downsides of self-care in orthodontics.

in health and social politics

No changes occurred in 2023.

in educational politics

March

AIO President Gerhard K. Seeberger gives an interview on oral cancer prevention on national TV.

June

AIO International congress organized by AIO Cagliari has been a success and attracted almost 1000 international speakers and participants.

July

AIO, under the lead of CE Secretary and president of AIO Academy Vincenzo Musella gives young speakers – under 40 – a chance to present to the wider dental community in the AIO Closed Meeting in Modena.

October

A successful congress was held in Turin with speakers under the age of 40 only. A patented competition among undergraduate dental students, an absolute premiere, was one of the highlights organized together with the Italian Dental Students Organization, AISO.

December

AIO held a Political congress in Modena on the overall theme Artificial Intelligence. The topic was tackled for the first time on a political setting in Italy. Experts from all fields of interest, academic, economic, industrial, legal, professional, and university have contributed to an outstanding program aiming at putting light onto a nebulous situation not only in Italy, but in all EU countries.

in the insurance system (incl. the public health insurance and private insurance schemes)

No changes occurred in 2023.

Corporate Dentistry

position of NDA towards dental chains

as from previous year:

AIO does not accept realities that are not subject to stay under the supervision of the professional order, e.g. commercially driven clinics. However, AIO is connecting to the younger colleagues and keen to give assistance in order to maintain the exclusivity of the medical act and the liberty in diagnosis and treatment.

problems with dental chains

as from previous year:

According to an investigation carried out by an association assisting and defending the rights of patients and consumers, it came to light that dental visits were often not as

accurate as in single dental practices, the focus was mainly on missing teeth and their rehabilitation with expensive treatment plans, and other conditions as gingival, periodontal and mucosal disorders were not detected. Motivation and instruction of patients was often times falling behind. Fees were comparable to those in single practices showing no advantage in affordability of care. Remuneration of service was generally low.

possible solutions

as from previous year:

Patients will show on the long-term the score of value of the dentist-patient relationship. Dental Service Organizations run by professionals could be a future solution to downsize the administrative load of single practices and better conditions for negotiating prices for devices, instruments and materials.

Changes in fees:

No changes occurred.

Information regarding promotion of the World Oral Health Day:

AIO will celebrate in 2024 according to the FDI theme.

Further information (activities):

Nothing further to report.

What are your 3 main concerns?

- 28 % of Italians only visit the dentist regularly.
- Commercialization of a healthcare profession is even more evident
- Patients are health-illiterate and critical thinking towards health solutions is not prevailing.

3 points you would like to discuss

- Pre-active healthcare politics instead of reactive analysis and adjustment?
- Let's go for substitution as delegation has not worked! Is the dentist dead?
- How to oppose governments' trial to squeeze out missing funds of dentists?