

## ***Regional European Organisation of the FDI***

### ***National Report on the activities of 2023***

***Country: Slovenia***

***Association: Slovenian Dental Association (SDA)***

*Please classify your national report by following subjects:*

#### ***Changes***

*in the association and its organisation*

New elections in our association (SDA) took place in 2023:

President: Prim. Matej Leskošek, DMD

Secretary General: Assist. Prof. Barbara Artnik, DMD

Secretary: Vesna Banko, DMD

#### ***Trends and developments:***

*in professional politics*

The governing coalition has very little support among the population.

There is currently a public debate on the Strategy for the development of health activities at the primary level of healthcare 2024-2031.

An agreement has been reached in the EU to ban the use of amalgam in dental fillings by the beginning of 2025. EU member states must stop using amalgam by the beginning of next year. It is not yet clear whether amalgam will also be banned in our country next year, and even then no co-payment will be required for white fillings.

The agreement provides for an exemption for countries where white fillings are not yet available without co-payment, and Slovenia is one of these countries. These countries can extend the transition period until mid-2026. The ministry did not confirm

that Slovenia will make use of the option to extend the deadline until the ban, but emphasised that we have this option.

From 2018, children up to the age of 15, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers can receive a white filling free of charge in the public healthcare system. Other insured persons are entitled to a white filling in the front, visible part of the teeth; if they also want this in the side tooth area, they must pay extra. The amount of the co-payment is determined by the dentist and varies from provider to provider.

*in health and social politics*

The Minister of Health resigns in July 2023. The Prime Minister takes over temporarily and a new Minister of Health is appointed in October 2023.

The union of doctors and dentists (Fides) starts a strike on 15 January 2024, which lasts until the end. They are demanding the regulation of the salary system for doctors and dentists in the special pillar of the healthcare system, the definition of career paths for doctors and dentists and the abolition of salary differentials.

The strike, which is still ongoing, is the longest in the country's history.

*in educational politics*

No major changes in the reporting period.

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

Voluntary supplementary insurance became part of compulsory health insurance in January 2024.

### **Corporate Dentistry**

*position of NDA towards dental chains*

*problems with dental chains*

*possible solutions*

No major changes in the reporting period.

*Changes in fees:*

No changes in the reporting period.

*Information regarding promotion of the World Oral Health Day:*



We have used FDI materials prepared for WOHD 2023 (e.g. posters translated into our language, etc.).

*Further information (activities):*

***What are your 3 main concerns?***

Digitalisation, strategy adoption for primary health care, doctors' strike

***3 points you would like to discuss***

Digitalisation

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