

ERO AI & Digital Dentistry Report and Next Policy Agenda

Practical education, updated European guidance and policy questions for dental education

Plenary Session • Prague • 5 September 2026

**From discussion to a European
work programme**

Educational pilot under Board review • Guidance update starts
now

What the preparation cycle taught us

The concept is understood

A practical ERO programme on AI teaching, implementation and shared teachers has been discussed since Shanghai and Sofia.

The whole WG is not a production team

One online meeting did not happen; the June cycle produced only two active contributors. Waiting for universal engagement will prevent delivery.

Two contributors are enough to start

Both supported the idea and offered concrete content. A small delivery unit can convert this into an ERO pilot.

Diagnosis: the problem is execution architecture — not the educational need.

We already have credible starting content

Israel — practical clinic AI

Proposed lecture: writing, summarising, content, search, files and images, voice tools, agents and automation — with accuracy, privacy, sensitive data and professional oversight.

Poland — education and clinical literacy

Willingness to lecture; suggested topics: AI in medical history, dental-clinic management and dentomaxillofacial radiology. An additional clinical expert was recommended.

Prague adds a whole-team teaching model and the production capacity to make the pilot happen.

One programme — two distinct products

1

Closed Teaching Exchange

30 invited association leaders, educators and contributors

Collect teachers, national examples and reusable materials



4–6 weeks

Editorial selection
Rehearsal
Promotion
Caption proof test

2

Open Practice Webinar

Dentists and dental teams

Practical AI, clinical literacy, guardrails and country lightning talks

Why ERO should act now

FDI

FDI recommends basic AI literacy, critical appraisal and continued human professional responsibility.

European Union

AI literacy has applied since February 2025. Most rules and transparency duties apply from August 2026; high-risk education rules apply from December 2027 and AI embedded in regulated products, including medical devices, from August 2028.

Dental education

The dental AI core curriculum covers foundations, use cases, evaluation and governance — exactly the structure ERO can translate into practice.

ERO's niche: association-led • cross-border • practical • vendor-neutral

A controlled pilot — not a new institution

Delivery model

ERO Board: mandate and oversight

WG: countries, teachers and review

Prague unit: coordination and production

Technical producer: platform and failover

Independence

First pilot without company funding

No product endorsement

COI disclosure

No participant data sharing

Commercial options only after evaluation

Direct cash ceiling

€5,000

Platform/captions €800

Producer €1,500

Post-production €600

Speakers €1,200

Materials €400

Contingency €500

What success looks like after six months

8+

member organisations contributing

10+

teacher profiles

6+

reusable country artefacts

150

webinar registrations

4.2/5

usefulness rating

≤ €5k

direct cash spend

Direction supported — formal approval pending

Board discussion

The Board expressed broad support for an ERO educational initiative.

Formal approval, budget and delivery mandate remain under consideration.

The Working Group can continue preparatory work without prejudging the final decision.

Pilot proposal remains open • No commitment before formal approval

The regulatory and technical baseline has changed

ERO's published AI materials date from 2022 — before the AI Act became applicable and before today's generative, local and agentic systems.

Law is now operational

AI literacy is already required. Transparency and enforcement are active, while high-risk timelines are now defined.

Models moved closer to the data

Local, on-premise and private deployments are increasingly realistic for sensitive clinical workflows.

The data pathway can be redesigned

De-identification or pseudonymisation gateways can reduce exposure — but do not automatically make data anonymous.

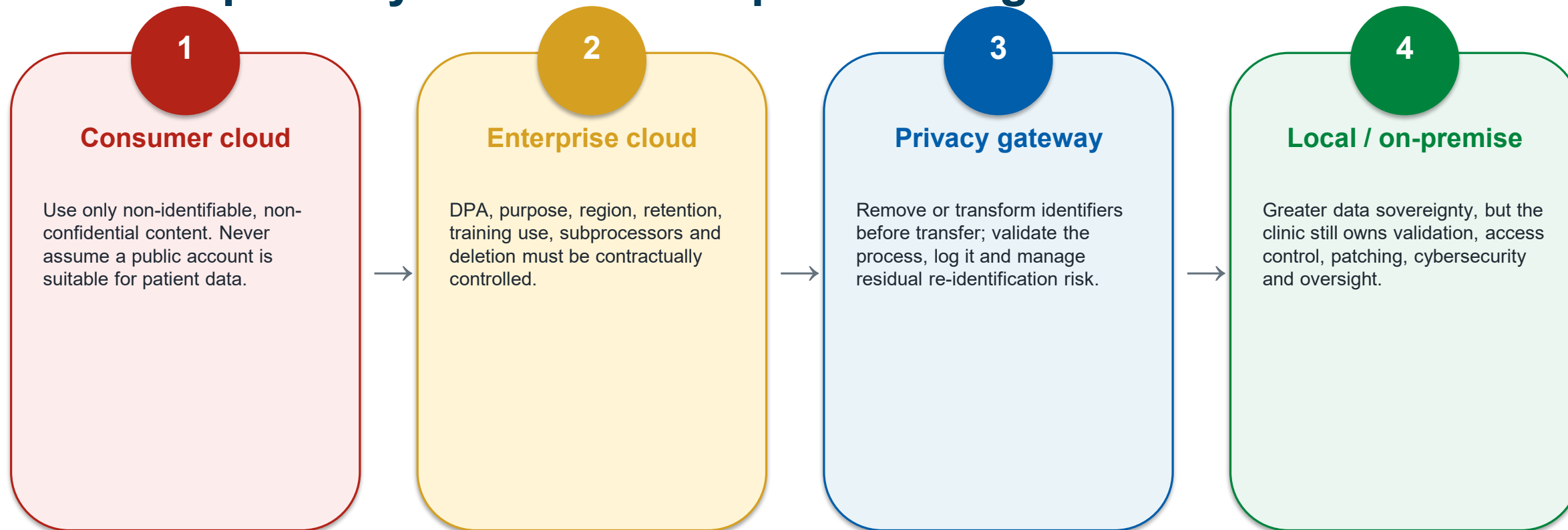
Use cases expanded dramatically

Documentation, communication, agents, education, research and assessment now sit beside diagnostic AI.

A generic list of “possibilities and risks” is no longer enough.

Sources: ERO Digital Dentistry publications (2022); European Commission AI Act (2026); EDPB Guidelines 01/2025.

The data pathway must become part of the guideline



Architecture changes the risk — it does not transfer professional responsibility.

The revised ERO package should include a practice checklist and a standard vendor questionnaire.

Sources: GDPR/EDPB pseudonymisation guidance; EU AI Act; recent privacy-preserving local clinical LLM studies.

AI in education: move beyond “ban or allow”

ERO should define the questions first — then seek political consensus across member organisations.

Learning, writing and postgraduate work

- Which uses are acceptable?
- When is disclosure or citation mandatory?
- How do we verify sources and authorship?
- What patient or research data must never be entered?

Assessment design

- AI-integrated or AI-resilient tasks?
- Oral defence and evidence of process?
- Equal access, disability and language fairness?
- Can AI generate questions or formative feedback?

AI as scorer or examiner

- What may be automated?
- Who validates reliability and bias?
- Is there a human decision and right of appeal?
- How are logs, explanations and accountability retained?

AI that evaluates learning outcomes or affects access, progression or grading may fall within high-risk education use cases.

Sources: ADEE Budapest 2026, “Redefining Assessment in the Age of AI”; EU AI Act high-risk education provisions.

Two parallel tracks — one European consultation

Track A — Educational pilot

Board decision pending. Keep the closed Teaching Exchange and open webinar ready for activation after formal approval.

Track B — Guidance and policy

Start now: revise the clinical/practice guidance and build a policy matrix for AI in dental education and assessment.



Deliverable 1
Revised ERO AI Guidance + practice checklist

Deliverable 2
Education policy matrix + proposed ERO positions

Request to every country: nominate one reviewer and submit one policy, course or practical case.

Next ERO Plenary: Dubrovnik, 16–17 April 2027. External review to be invited where appropriate.