

National Report on Activities – 2025

General Information

Country: POLAND

Association: POLISH CHAMBER OF PHYSICIANS AND DENTISTS

Reporting Period: January – December 2025

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Instructions

Please complete this form clearly and concisely. Where applicable, you may attach additional documents or provide references. If a section is not applicable, please indicate "N/A".

1. Changes in the Association and Its Organisation

Please describe any significant structural, strategic, leadership, or membership-related changes during 2025.

No major changes in 2025 occurred in the Polish Chamber of Physicians and Dentists. Elections of new governing bodies at the level of regional chambers and the Supreme Chamber for the term of office 2026 – 2030 are taking place in Spring 2026.

The Polish Chamber of Physicians and Dentists is the main professional organization in Poland. It is the organizational body of the professional self-government of physicians and dental practitioners who are associated in the chambers with equal status. Membership is mandatory. Every physician and every dental practitioner who holds the right to practice the profession in Poland is a member of the chamber by virtue of the law. There are 23 Regional Chambers and a separate chamber of military physicians and dentists. The Polish Supreme Chamber of Physicians and Dentists coordinates the work of regional chambers and represents the professional self-government on international level.

2. Main Concerns

Please list the three most important concerns currently facing your association.

Generally, the main concerns remain the same as in previous years:

- a) insufficient public funding of dental care services;
 - b) insufficient number of specialist training posts for dentists;
 - c) growing bureaucratic burdens on dental practitioners and rising costs of managing the dental office.
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3. Key Discussion Points

Please indicate three topics or issues you would like to discuss at international level.

- a) corporate dentistry and its implications on the exercise of the dental profession;
 - b) ethical obligations of dentists in view of the technological development and growing use of AI;
 - c) better integration of oral care into general health policies.
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4. Trends and Developments

Please describe relevant trends and developments in the following areas:

a) Professional Politics

Over the last year, issues related to public dental care have been the subject of numerous initiatives undertaken by the Dental Commission of the Polish Supreme Chamber of Physicians and Dentists. At the conference "Roundtable on Dental Prevention on the Occasion of World Oral Health Day," convened in cooperation with the Senate of the Republic of Poland, the medical self-government identified the most important tasks and needs in the field of dental prevention and proposed solutions that could be implemented through a public-private partnership. Paweł Barucha, Vice President of the Supreme Medical Council, presented key aspects of the current situation of dental care in Poland. He emphasized the need to intensify preventive measures, particularly among children and adolescents, and the need to educate the public about oral health. He also discussed potential models of cooperation that could benefit both patients and dentists.

Given the increasing challenges faced by dentistry in the public sector, the medical community clearly indicated that the proposed changes to the dental benefit package — without a corresponding increase in pricing — would burden dentists and limit patient access to modern treatment. The Chamber explicitly called the current state of public dental care a re-privatization, pointing out that dentistry, like other fields of medicine, requires a coherent health policy based on knowledge, dialogue, and accountability. Continuing the current status quo could lead to a situation

where public dental care becomes merely a formal addition to the system, devoid of real significance for patients and society.

b) Health and Social Politics

On 4 December 2025 the “Oral Health Coalition” initiative was launched in Poland - a broad project, first of its kind in Poland, integrating public sector, expert organizations, medical communities, NGOs and private partners. The Polish Chamber of Physicians and Dentists is among the co-founders, actively supporting efforts to improve the oral health of Poles.

The Coalition's priorities include increasing public awareness of dental and periodontal disease prevention, providing health education for children from an early age and developing coherent recommendations for decision-makers regarding necessary systemic solutions.

One of the Coalition's first projects will be an educational program, which is to be launched in March 2026 in Silesia. Classes for pupils in grades 1-3 of primary schools prepared by experts will be led by dental students as volunteers. The pilot's results will be used to develop recommendations for implementing the program nationwide.

c) Educational Politics

The Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń became the 11th university in Poland providing dental studies (currently the number of yearly admissions at this university for dentistry is 48). The dental faculty was opened as part of the University's Collegium Medicum in Bydgoszcz.

Dental studies in Poland are currently provided by 11 public universities. In the academic year 2025/2026 altogether the number of admission posts for dentistry in Poland was 1 431 – 1 140 for studies in Polish language and 291 for studies in English.

In 2025 the Supreme Chamber of Physicians and Dentists co-organized an event uniting all medical professions around the topic of pre-hospital lifesaving education, co-creating the "Save a Life" World Congress of Polish Medical Communities Abroad, in collaboration with the Polish Medical Association. The event, which took place at the Medical University of Warsaw, featured discussions on various aspects and conditions of lifesaving, incl. the important role of dental practitioners in this field of healthcare.

d) Insurance System

(including public health insurance and private insurance schemes)

No major changes in 2025. Still the problem of non-sufficient public financing of dentistry is prevailing.

5. World Oral Health Day Promotion

Does your association promote World Oral Health Day?

Yes

If yes, please describe the type of activities (e.g. campaigns, events, media outreach, partnerships):

Each year awareness raising campaigns are carried out; dissemination of the FDI materials related to WOHD takes place nationwide; special articles regarding dentistry are published in national and local media.

Thanks to many years of engagement of the Chamber, other dental organizations and individual dentists, the WOHD is nowadays a well-recognized and well-established event in Poland. In 2025 it resulted, among other activities, in organization of the conference "Roundtable on Dental Prevention on the Occasion of World Oral Health Day," convened in cooperation with the Senate of the Republic of Poland.

Also, other public bodies are promoting and supporting the WOHD and its messages – for example the sanitary inspection is on this occasion delivering educational information about hygiene, the importance of a healthy diet and regular dental visits.
