

# Interim Report and Project Proposal for the ERO Board

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*ERO Working Group on Digitalisation in Dentistry – E-Health – Artificial Intelligence*

**Prepared for the Sofia Plenary Session (24–25 April 2026)**

## 1. Executive summary

Since the Shanghai 2025 cycle, the Working Group has been trying to define a useful and realistic role in AI and digital dentistry. At the online meeting on 6 November 2025, the group discussed an international seminar for ERO member organisations, a webinar concept, and a starter pack of practical materials for dentists. The discussion remained broad and the concept was not sufficiently concrete for all colleagues. The key task for Sofia is therefore to move from a general idea to a precise, limited and deliverable project.

I propose that the Working Group formally focus on two practical postulates:

- ERO should support AI literacy and safe implementation in dentistry, with a strong emphasis on education rather than promotion of specific vendors.
- ERO should facilitate cross-border sharing of teaching know-how, teachers and reusable materials among member organisations.

## 2. Basis in previous WG work

The minutes of the online meeting record that the WG discussed shaping an international seminar for member organisations, defining a webinar concept and scope, and preparing a starter pack of practical materials for dentists. The discussion also explicitly aimed to share different experiences and suggestions, and to circulate the Czech Dental Chamber AI course information afterwards. This confirms that the current proposal is not a new departure, but a sharpening of work already started by the WG.

Working assumptions from the existing materials:

- The Czech pilot course is practical, focused on documentation, scheduling, email handling and internal knowledge bases.
- The offer is not a single lecture but a longer-term educational collaboration with regular updates.
- The WG should avoid an abstract ‘AI is everywhere’ discussion and instead define a concrete educational and organisational offer.

## 3. Proposed strategic mandate

To avoid confusion, the Working Group should explicitly define what it will do and what it will not do.

Area	Proposal
What the WG should do	Build AI literacy; share good educational practice; organise a cross-border seminar/webinar; create a

	starter toolkit; connect teachers and member organisations.
What the WG should not do	Act as a vendor showcase, certify commercial products, or promise clinical recommendations beyond the competence of member organisations and regulators.
Preferred positioning	Education, governance, practical implementation, and exchange of know-how.

## 4. Proposed flagship project for 2026

Title: ERO International Seminar on AI Teaching and Practical Implementation in Dentistry

Purpose: to help member organisations understand how AI should be taught, how dentists can be trained safely, and how the best teachers and teaching materials can be shared across countries.

- Phase 1 – Sofia decision: approve the project, scope and work plan.
- Phase 2 – preparation: collect short country inputs on what already exists and who can teach.
- Phase 3 – international webinar/seminar: combine practical presentations, country showcases, and a structured exchange of teaching resources.
- Phase 4 – follow-up: publish a starter kit and launch a light ‘teacher exchange’ mechanism.

## 5. Proposed seminar architecture

- Opening segment: why AI in dentistry now, and why education must lead implementation.
- Practical segment: documentation, scheduling, communication, patient materials, and other administrative use cases with immediate value.
- Clinical literacy segment: overview of imaging/radiology AI and what must remain under clinician control.
- Country showcase segment: 3–5 short presentations from member organisations on what they already teach or use.
- Teacher exchange segment: identification of colleagues who can deliver short online classes across borders.
- Outputs: downloadable templates, checklists, consent/disclosure language, KPI/ROI tools, and a simple contact list of teachers.

## 6. Why this project is timely

Recent international literature supports this direction. A 2023 consensus paper on a core curriculum for oral and dental AI proposed four curricular domains: what AI is and how it works, where AI occurs in oral health care, how to evaluate dental AI, and what further governance issues dentists should assess. This supports a structured literacy-based approach rather than isolated tool demonstrations.

A 2025 scoping review of guidelines relevant to dental education found that no dental education-specific GenAI guidelines were identified, even though the common themes were ethical use, transparency, academic integrity, secure environments and misuse detection. This means ERO can fill a real gap by offering a practical European format.

ADEE currently notes that colleagues are helping develop guidance around AI and refers schools to curriculum papers and AI/data literacy competencies. WHO's 2025 guidance on large multi-modal models for health also underlines the need for governance when generative AI enters health care.

## **7. Concrete outputs requested from the ERO Board**

- Political support for the seminar project as an official WG activity for 2026.
- Permission to invite country contributions and identify teacher contacts through member organisations.
- Support for dissemination through ERO communication channels.
- Agreement that the WG deliverables should be educational and vendor-neutral.

## **8. Decisions requested in Sofia**

- Approve the two postulates as the WG mandate for 2026.
- Approve the international seminar/webinar as the flagship project.
- Approve collection of country showcases and teacher profiles.
- Nominate a small editorial team to prepare the final seminar package.

## **9. Draft conclusion**

The Working Group now needs clarity, not breadth. If ERO approves a focused educational mandate, the WG can deliver a practical international seminar, a shareable starter kit, and a cross-border network of teachers. This would be a visible, useful and realistic first result.