

6. Quality in dentistry

It is difficult to define quality, remarks Roland L'HERRON. It can be about the quality of care system, of health professionals, of environment of healthcare, or the quality of healthcare themselves. It was decided to focus on the environment of different treatments and care and to work on a self-assessment tool for this environment, which can be used by the dental practitioner and his team. The working group drafted a checklist of points to be considered in order to improve the practice of dentists. Roland L'HERRON emphasizes that each dentist is free to use this list or not, as he wants. It does not relate to law or regulation, which varies according to countries, healthcare systems, cultures, but relates to universal and unavoidable criteria of quality. Those who want to stick to the laws and regulation of their country do not have to care about this checklist, which only objective is to help the dentist to self-assess his work and practice and to identify where corrections or improvements are possible and necessary.

Roland L'HERRON thanks his colleagues in the working group for the good and active participation.

Philippe RUSCA thanks Roland L'HERRON for this preliminary report, expecting the final version.