

Regional European Organisation of the FDI

National Report

Country: ***The Netherlands (NL)***

Association: ***KNMG***

Venue: ***Utrecht (NL)***

Year: ***2022***

Please classify your national report by following subjects:

Changes.

in the association and its organisation

In 2022 the changes in the board reflected the further integration of ANT and KNMT after the merger per January first 2021. End 2022 this integration has been successfully completed.

Board members KNMT overview

Start 2022	End 2022
R.Kohsiek	
	E.Hin
W.Kniese	
J.Kwakman	J.Kwakman
R.Raktoe	
	R.Rinke Blok (Treasurer)
R.Suy	
H.de Vries	H.de Vries (President)

Trends and developments: in professional politics

Enhance Sustainability

In 2021, the KNMT had committed to promoting sustainable practices in the dental sector and had announced several initiatives to support this goal.

In July 2022 KNMT published the e-book "Towards a Sustainable Dental Practice"

The e-book offers a sustainability toolkit for dental practices to provide guidance on sustainable practices

Development in task delegation

In 2022 the Health and Youth Care Inspectorate (IGJ) has published an assessment framework called "Delegation of Tasks in Oral Healthcare" to evaluate the delegation of tasks in dental practices. The established standards are based on the rulings of the Central Disciplinary Board in recent years.

Coalition of organisations in Health Care focussing on the oral health of youth

The KNMT has entered into a long-term partnership with Regional Health Care Agencies (GGDs) for parents and children, Dutch Paediatricians and health insurers with the aim of increasing access to (preventive) dental care and information about (preventive) dental care, with special attention for the minority (of parents of young children) who do not find access.

in health and social politics

The law on Healthcare Supervision (WTZa) came into effect per January 1st, 2022

The law on Healthcare Supervision aims to improve the quality of care and patient safety by regulating new healthcare providers before they are allowed to provide care.

KNMT supports measures enhancing quality but objects as this law increases bureaucracy and administrative burdens, especially for small or independent dental practices.

The KNMT appealed to the Freedom of Information Act (Woo) to gain insight into the drafting of new rules with regard to the annual accounts for healthcare pursuant to the WTZa.

In cooperation with 9 other organisations for Primary Health Care, KNMT will continue to advocate policies that strike a balance between promoting integrity and quality and preventing overregulation.

Addressing the shortage of dentists has effect

The Ministry of health made a statement recognising the urgency of solving the dentist shortage in the Netherlands. The KNMT highlighted the growing gap between the demand for dental care and the availability of dental professionals, particularly in rural areas. This is seen as a positive step towards addressing this issue and finding solutions to ensure that all individuals have access to high-quality dental care.

Developments in employment relations in oral health labour market

In 2022, the Netherlands Authority for Consumers and Markets (ACM) changed its enforcement policy with regard to trade associations and advice in the field of employment conditions. Every year, the KNMT drew up an employment conditions regulation to help dentists, orthodontists and their team members make agreements about the employment conditions. This method was no longer tolerated by the ACM, due to the shortage on the labour market. Instead, the KNMT now offers models of employment contracts and a model of employment conditions.

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

Introduction Policy Cosmetic Dentistry

The KNMT has launched an experiment called "Free Rates for Cosmetic Dentistry". As part of the experiment, dental practices can charge their patients fees higher than the fixed prices set by the Dutch Health Care Authority (NZa) for veneers and bleaching procedures. The aim of the experiment is to stimulate innovation and competition in cosmetic dentistry while offering patients more choice in terms of the treatments and prices available to them. The experiment will run until the end of 2023, after which the KNMT and the NZa will evaluate the results and determine whether the programme will be extended or adjusted.

Corporate Dentistry

Position of NDA towards dental chains

The KNMT uses its influence to keep the balance between different types of entrepreneurship and enhance a level playing field thus maintaining and boosting high quality and accessibility of oral health-care in the Netherlands.

Possible solutions

The focus in 2022 has been on identifying initiatives to further stimulate entrepreneurship among young dentists, such as : help ensure access to finance, create awareness of legal framework in which the dental health care provider operates, (reference to) advice on acquisition

Changes in fees:

The Dutch Health Authority (NZa) has decided to increase the indexation of dental performance rates for 2023 at 7.7 percent. And those for orthodontics at 8.6 percent.

Information regarding promotion of the World Oral Health Day:

The KNMT used World Oral Health Day on 20 March to reach parents with the campaign 'Healthy Teeth are Child's Play' with 6 tips for healthy children's teeth.

This campaign is aimed at promoting oral health among children in The Netherlands and supported by the Dutch Association for Paediatric Dentistry. The campaign contains tips that help parents to keep their child's teeth caries-free and also parents are brought to the attention that visits to the dentist for children are reimbursed from the basic insurance.

Further information (activities):

To help Ukrainian refugees in need of dental care, the KNMT compiled a list of dental care practices where refugees can go upon arrival in The Netherlands. And a translation card has been made available to dental practices, on which dental terminology is translated into Ukrainian.

What are your 3 main concerns?

1. Promote entrepreneurship among young dentists, stimulating them to start their own dental practices

2. Capacity dental workforce

KNMT will continue to exert its influence on the Ministry of Health to contribute to solutions to address the shortage of dentists and help increase the number of hygienists and assistants educated.

3. Oral care (prevention & education) youth

The relatively small group of (parents of young) children that finds insufficient access to oral care has a very high priority. And specifically integration of education for **all** parents about oral care into (early) childhood health care is a high priority.

3 points you would like to discuss

KNMT would like to discuss the developments regarding the above mentioned concerns in other countries and the initiatives taken to address these issues:

- initiatives to enhance entrepreneurship among young dentists
- increase capacity dental workforce
- children receiving sufficient oral health care; prevention and education