

Regional European Organisation of the FDI

National Report

Country: **Switzerland**

Association: **SSO**

Venue:

Year: 2022

Please classify your national report by following subjects:

Changes

in the association and its organisation

No changes in the Board. Dr Jean-Philippe Haesler was re-elected as President as well as the other board members. After 2 years of pandemic, the Assembly of the Delegates could be hold in presence again.

Trends and developments:

in professional politics

The board of the Swiss Dental Association SSO has reinforced its efforts to take younger dentists on board. A working group has been created to find out about the needs of students and young dentists. For the second time a special event for dentists under age 35, was organised with success.

in health and social politics

After 2 years of pandemic patients are coming back to the dental offices and things are more or less cack to normal. One of the main concerns, is still the oral health of the ageing population.

in educational politics

for dental students things are back to normal again after 2 years of pandemic. In 2022 there were 108 students passed their exam as dentists. 61 % were female. In Switzerland an average of 20% of dentists will do a specialisation training at universities, which lasts between 3 and 4 years.

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

There was another referendum for a mandatory insurance for dental care. In Canton Vaud and Geneva the referendum has already been rejected previously. In 2022 in the canton of Neuchatel, such a referendum has been rejected by 63% of the votes too but in several Latin cantons this issue hasn't been voted yet.

The SSO is fighting this referendum because SSO stands for a free and independent relation between patients and their dentists.

Corporate Dentistry

position of NDA towards dental chains

The Swiss Dental Association SSO is not favourable dental chains because we fear the same problems that occurred in Spain, France and other countries. Dentistry shouldn't become a field for profit maximising investors.

problems with dental chains

Aggressive advertising, misleading the patients occurs frequently with such chains. Their interest is focused on costly Implant dentistry and aligner therapies. Investors buy dental offices for a price that is way over the market price and therefore make it difficult for young dentists to open their own office.

possible solutions

Owners of the office should be dentists. Limited number of employed dentists per office. Change in law is needed.

Changes in fees:

None

Information regarding promotion of the World Oral Health Day:

SSO promoted the World Oral Health Day via social media and press releases.

Further information (activities):

What are your 3 main concerns?

- Immigration of dentists and the differences in their qualifications.
- Dental chains offering aligner therapies and badly trained young dentists providing them.

3 points you would like to discuss.

- Immigration of dentists and the differences in their qualifications
- How to collect reliable data about dental training (hours in theory and chairside with the patient)
- How to create a good environment for future dentists