

NATIONAL REPORT

Country: **Croatia**

Association: **National Committee for Dental Medicine**

Venue: **Plenary Session in Paris**

Year: **2013.**

I. Changes in the association and its organization:

The members of the Croatian Dental Chamber are dentists, dental technicians and dental assistants. With professional grade of dental technicians which is already established, in Chamber are pending elections for the establishment of professional grade of dental assistants. By bringing together all parties involved in the providing of dental services to the patient in one Chamber (dentists as holder of activity, dental technicians and dental assistants), we can comprehensively consider all problems that appear in performing the dental profession.

*II. Trends and developments:
and / in professional politics :*

Considering that the Croatia became a full member of the EU from July 1st, 2013, behind us is an active work to harmonize Croatian legislation in the field of dental medicine with European directives. Special attention is dedicated to application of Directive 2005/36 which is related to the recognition of foreign professional qualifications.

With everyday topics, current issues are inhalation sedation and the use of Botox and hyaluronic acid in dental practices and teeth whitening, which is unfortunately often performed in beauty salons.

b /in health politics :

Public health dental service in Croatia is carried out based on of concessions, which is awarded by contract from competent local county government to dentists. In the year 2013. is significantly different method of payment to dentists, who are under a contract with an insurance company of mandatory health insurance , and which provide service of dental medicine to patients. Payment of dental services is not related exclusively to the fee per patient. It is calculated with fixed costs (which includes utilities and salaries of doctor and dental assistant), fee per patient and DTP

(diagnostic and therapeutic procedures), which are paid according to the number of services provided by dental practice. There are also proscribed additional revenue opportunities (e-ordering, group practices, availability of doctors, preventive programs, quality indicators, etc.).

c / in educational politics :

Croatian Dental Chamber is continuously working on improving the quality of professional development of its members and organizes courses which with their contents are intended to doctors, dental technicians and dental assistants.

In the area of professional education members of the chambers from the region K4, the Croatian Dental Chamber continues with successful cooperation with the Chambers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and Slovenia.

In the year 2013. Croatian Dental Chamber continue with their publishing activities by issuing magazines (Croatian Dental Herald, Dental Design and Smile) as well as books for professionals.

d / in the insurance system:

In Croatia, there is still only one insurance company of mandatory health insurance, which provides patients prescribed standard of services and procedures within the public health network. Contracts are concluded with dentists in primary and specialist activities, in the form of private practice and healthcare institutions. According to the regulations, companies cannot implement mandatory health insurance. On the market there is a whole variety of insurance companies that implement supplementary and voluntary health insurance for non-standard services.

III. Further information (activities, concerns):

- Even during economic crisis Croatian Dental Chamber increased the possibility of obtaining more funds which are intended for the implementation of mandatory health insurance of dental care;

- Croatian Dental Chamber encourages and actively participate in events and campaigns related to the prevention in dental medicine (maintaining of Oral health month directly with citizens, etc.) ;

- Croatian Dental Chamber is continuously ensuring the highest possible quality level of professional development of its members (top lecturers, current topics applicable to everyday practice, higher number of working courses, etc.)

- Croatian Dental Chamber continues with intensive publishing activity.