



## **TURKISH DENTAL ASSOCIATION**

# **2012 NATIONAL REPORT**

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|--------------------|---|
| <b>COUNTRY</b>     | : TURKEY  |
| <b>ASSOCIATION</b> | :Türk Dişhekimleri Birliği/Turkish Dental Association |
| <b>VENUE</b>       | : Ankara / TURKEY                                     |
| <b>YEAR</b>        | : 2012  |

## **I. Changes**

### **- In the Association and Its Organization**

#### **Board of Turkish Dental Association**

In TDA Board of Directors which was formed by the election on November 9-11th, 2012 during the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly in Ankara has the following changes.

#### **14<sup>th</sup> Term Board of Directors of Turkish Dental Association**

|                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Prof. Dr. Taner YÜCEL | <b>President</b>          |
| Dr. Serdar SÜTCÜ      | <b>Vice President</b>     |
| Ahmet Tarık İŞMEN     | <b>Secretary General</b>  |
| Ufuk ARALP            | <b>General Accountant</b> |
| Dr. Serdar AK         | <b>Member</b>             |
| İrfan KARABABA        | <b>Member</b>             |
| Yusuf KILIÇ           | <b>Member</b>             |
| Mustafa ORAL          | <b>Member</b>             |
| Dr. Faik Serhat ÖZSOY | <b>Member</b>             |
| Tuncay SEVEN          | <b>Member</b>             |
| Ümüt YURDAKUL         | <b>Member</b>             |

## **II. Trends and developments**

### **- In professional politics**

#### **Employment of dentists in public**

#### **Personnel rights of dentists and public's receiving services from clinics**

The unrealistic policy that public will receive the oral care services of the population of 73 million from Oral and Dental Care Centers of Ministry of Health whose number is 123 is still in use. As the patients cannot reach to the dentists, the demand of Turkish Dental Association for getting services from the private dental clinics which are in almost every neighborhood has been tried to be transmitted to the government also in 2012.

Ministry of Health, also in 2012, tried to continue to increase the employment of dentists in public sector. The Minister of Health has been trying to equalize the numbers of the self-employed dentists and dentists working in public sector.

Ministry of Health employs our colleagues with an annual contract based employment without a job security. In addition, not the qualified treatment but the care for more patients in number is encouraged by the practice based on performance. Although the skewness in the system has been put into words, the legal struggle has also been continuing.

### **Preventive Practices for Public Oral Health Care**

Oral and Dental Health Action planning works 2013-2018 of Ministry of Health which will begin in 2013 and is aimed to reach all school children have been started in cooperation with our Association.

This Action Plan will be a an important and comprehensive application for the public finance by providing savings in terms of prioritizing the protective applications in oral health as well as having a dental problem-free generation by tracking the oral and dental health problems in children for a long time. That the dentists working in Ministry and the self-employed dentists registered in our Association will take part in this project will ensure that the project will achieve the desired goals in a reasonable time.

#### **- In educational politics**

### **Continuing Dental Education**

A total of 168 scientific activities were submitted to the Higher Commission of Turkish Dental Association on Continuing Dental Education in the year of 2012. 156 of these scientific activities were credited. 127 of these activities were organized by Local Dental Chambers, 14 by the Dental Faculties, 6 by Scientific Societies, 3 by the Oral and Dental Health Center and 5 were held by Turkish Dental Association. In our country to get a Continuing Education Certificate, a dentist must complete 160 credit points in 4 year time.

### **TDA Competency Project**

The rapid development of dental profession in our country and around the world, the changing needs of society about the oral and dental health care and the need for professional continuing education have showed up more crucially than in the past ten years.

Need for qualified human resources, reflections of fast-growing technology in dentistry, strengthening the service-quality oriented approaches and the demanding form quite a large market for professional training

There are many training activities organized in the field of dentistry. Contribution of each training activities to profession and colleague is not the same. The main principles of professional continuing education, application methods, and success criteria have been an important issue for many years studied by many professional institutions and universities around the world; they are generally accepted and their success has been determined.

The first information that is required to evaluate the success of any training given in any area is the educational gains that have been identified in various sizes. When it comes to

professional continuing education, educational achievements have been revealed as the capabilities that a dentist should have after the bachelor's degree.

For that purpose; in order to form a basis for the evaluation of continuing professional education programs by our Association, the structuring of the organization which includes the procedures for determination of Professional Qualifications and Standards is ongoing.

It has been requested contribution and co-operation from Ministry of Health for the implementation of the organization.

### **Dental Faculties**

In Turkey, by the year 2012, there are 46 Dental Faculties. Currently, there is education in 33 of these faculties.

In the last 5 years, while the population of our country increased 6,87 %, the number of dental students increased 95%.

Due to the continuation of the opening of the new Dental Faculties without proper workforce planning, lack of the geographical distribution of the workforce and poor dental visits, our colleagues face a serious unemployment problem.

#### **- Some Other Information Solidarity Fund**

In 2011, we have helped to our 13 dentists and their families from the Fund of Solidarity which aims to assist the dentists and their families who have great difficulty to practice their professions by reason of natural disasters or serious illnesses.

Besides, owing to the heartbreaking earthquakes occurred in our country in 19.05.2011 and 23.10.2011, we aided financially to our 48 colleagues.

The income of the Fund is composed of the fee that our members pay to their Chambers.

### **Incapacity Insurance and Personal Accident Insurance**

It is arranged by Turkish Dental Association the Incapacity Insurance and Personal Accident Insurance for the members whose names are notified by Chambers of TDA. Due to the Insurance, it is decided to pay approximately 10.000 USD for once only to the relatives of the dentists who has died or has been injured in an accident and unable to practice their profession. Also for the colleagues who has unable to practice their profession temporarily, Turkish Lira equivalent to 50 Euro is paid for a period not to exceed 200 days in a year.

### **Medical Fee in Dentistry**

Minimum Examination and Treatment Fee Scale determined by Turkish Dental Association through the right of legislation according to the cost analysis based on scientific data and seen as the quality guarantee of the services in liberal dentistry, used to become valid once they were approved by the Ministry of Health and published in the Official Journal and while collecting fee under the Scale was permitted, there used to be several penalties to those who did.

Ministry of Health canceled the obligation of obeying the Scale in 02.11.2011. The Scale has been turned into a “Guide”.

### **III. Changes in Fees**

#### **Fees of the Dental Health Care Services**

Minimum Examination and Treatment Wage Tariff which was considered as a guarantee of the quality of dental care in private practice was determined with the authorization given by the Turkish Dental Association Law and by the cost analysis based on scientific data. And it used to become effective after the approval of the Ministry of Health and after published in Official Gazette and taking less charge than the given in the wage tariff was prohibited and to the ones who fail to comply were imposed various sanction.

Ministry of Health, with the law entered into force on 02.11.201, has removed the requirement to comply with the tariff. Tariff serves as a “Guide” and has been implemented in 2012.

### **IV. Further new information**

#### **- FDI 101st Annual World Dental Congress**

As a result of the regular activities carried out by the Turkish Dental Association, FDI 101<sup>st</sup> Annual World Dental Congress will be held in İstanbul between the dates of August 28<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>th</sup>, 2013. In the meeting in Lisbon, in March, 2012 it was decided to make the organization in Turkey. The scientific program and the preparations of ExpoDental built in an area of 7500 square meters have been completed and the registration is ongoing.

#### **- International Congresses of the Turkish Dental Association**

The 19<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Turkish Dental Association was held between May 28<sup>th</sup> and 02<sup>nd</sup> June, 2012 in Ankara, Turkey with the participation of 1647 dentists. 102 companies have participated to the Expo-Dental 2012 which took place over an area of 4000m<sup>2</sup> within the context of the Congress.

#### **- Decree law about the organizations and the functions of Ministry of Health and subsidiaries**

Health professional associations objected to the political power who has made fundamental changes in the health care system with the “Decree law about the organizations and the functions of Ministry of Health and subsidiaries” which has become a law impoliticy to the provisions of the current legislation in Turkey and made an appeal to the Constitutional Court via the main opposition party.

## **Turkish Dental Association**

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