

NATIONAL REPORT

Country: **Croatia**

Association: **National Committee for Dental Medicine**

Venue: **Plenary Sessions in Prague**

Year: **2011.**

I.Changes in the association and its organisation:

The amendment of the dental care, at the Croatian Dental Chamber were established vocational class of dental technicians and dental assistants. Registration of dental technicians began in 2010, and from 1 January this year began the registration of dental assistants. Dental technicians are independent and with registration in the Chamber they receive permission for the work (license), dental assistants carry out their activities under the direction and supervision of a doctor of dental medicine, from the Chamber they receive a work permit. By bringing together all parties involved in providing dental profession to patients in a Chamber (doctor of dental medicine as a carrier of activities, dental technicians and dental assistants), can be comprehensively examine all the problems that arise in the performance of the dental profession.

II.Trends and developments:

a/ in professional politics:

Drafting new nomenclature of dental services with a full list of all services in dental medicine (services performed by a doctor of dental medicine and dental technician). In addition, ongoing are the changes in network of specialist services of dental medicine in public health network. Ministry of Health is drafting new Regulations on professional education of doctors of dental medicine.

b/ in health politics:

Public health dental service in the Republic of Croatia is based on concessions, which are based on contracts given by the local government units (counties). Croatia is not yet defined a new way of performing emergency dental services, and it is currently performed only in regional centers, through all the contractual obligations of doctors to participate in the provision of emergency dental care to patients of compulsory health insurance of a given region.

c/ in educational politics:

Chamber continuously works on improving and raising the quality of professional education of its members. Given that since 2010 the Chamber members are also and dental technicians, Chamber has successfully organized professional education that is intended only to dental technicians. Also Chamber has organized professional education on which participated doctors of dental medicine, dental technicians and dental assistants.

In the area of professional education for members of the Chamber of K4 region, the Chamber continues successfully cooperate with the competent Chamber of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and Slovenia.

2010 marked as an extremely active publishing activities of the Chamber - the release of professional books and manuals.

d/ in the insurance system:

In Croatia there is still only one insurance company of compulsory health insurance, which provides services to patients by prescribed standards and procedures within the public health network. Contracts are concluded with doctors of dental medicine in primary and specialist services, in the form of private practice and health care institutions. Under current regulations, companies can not provide mandatory health insurance. Payment for services is performed by the principle of capitation at the primary level, ie by the sistem price per service at the secondary level.

On the market there are many insurance companies which provides supplemental health insurance for non-standard services.

III. Further information (activities, concerns)

- In recessionary conditions keep the amount of funds provided for the implementation of compulsory health insurance for dental care of patients;
- Define the final structure of emergency dental medicine;
- Continuously provide quality professional education of all members of the Chamber;
- Continue with intensive publishing activities of the Chamber.