



European Regional Organisation of
the Fédération dentaire internationale



Bulgarian Dental Association 105th Years History

Nikolai Sharkov

President

of Bulgarian Dental Association

History of BgDA

First Dental Congress of the Bulgarian Dental Association (BgDA) December 20, 1905

На 20. декември 1905. г. членовете на конгреса били събрани във малкия салон на „Славянска бесѣда“. Въ 10¹/₂ часа сутринта г. Д-ръ Русевъ, директоръ за опазв. общ. здраве, съ добавяща рѣчь открилъ първия конгресъ на българските зъболѣкари.

History of BgDA

Cultural Club “Slavainska Beseda” in 1905



History of BgDA

The founders of BgDA



Dr. Dimitar Toshkov

Dr. Michail Elmazov

Dr. Friedrich Flamich

History of BgDA



“Slavainska Beseda” in 2010



The memorial plaque in honor of the founders of the BgDA at the entrance of the building.

History of BgDA

In 1947 all the professional associations were forbidden by the communist regime.

They were replaced by dutiful “trade unions” which unified under a common denominator all the “health workers” – from doctors to hospital attendants.

In 1971 г. The private practice of the physicians and physicians of dental medicine was forbidden.

History of BgDA

On March 11, 1990 г., in the town of Plovdiv, the professional activities of the Bulgarian dentist were restored – the Bulgarian Stomatological Association was established.

History of BgDA

On July 21, 1998 г., with a special law, Association of Dentist in Bulgaria (ADB) was founded.

In the Law ADB was determined as an assignee of the BgDA 1905 г.

An united professional association was created with a mandatory membership and authorized state functions.



History of BgDA

In January 1, 2007, with the acceptance of Bulgaria in EU, with a change in the Law ADB regained its historic name –

Bulgarian Dental Association.



Bulgarian Dental Association

The law entrusts to the Association functions, typical of the similar professional organisations in the democratic world:

- **To negotiate and contract with the National Health Insurance Fund.**
- **To keep and update the register of the profession. Registering with the Association is a compulsory prerequisite for practising dental medicine in Bulgaria.**
- **To enforce the ethic principles of the profession and penalize their infringement.**
- **To inform and qualify its members.**
- **To defend its members, etc.**

Bulgarian Dental Association

The Constitution introduced the “functional field” principle in the central management of the Association, via the establishment of 7 Standing Working Committees (SWC), intended to perform its basic functions.

Each Chairman of a SWC is being elected by the Congress, and is holding also the office of a Vice-President of the Association, which determines their high statute and responsibility.

The Constitution stipulates a territorial representation in the Managing Board by including in the Board representatives of all the 28 Regional Colleges of BgDA.

Bulgarian Dental Association

The Law of the Professional Organisations and the Constitution of BgDA constitute also the control bodies of the Association as independent commissions:

The *Commission of Professional Ethics* is supervising the moral, ethical and deontological issues in practicing the dental profession.

The *Control Commission* controls of the decisions of the Managing Board, as well as their implementation, in terms of their adherence to the law and the Constitution of BgDA.

Bulgarian Dental Association

“Code of professional ethics of the physicians in dental medicine in the Republic of Bulgaria”, adopted by the Congress of BgDA, signed by the Minister of Health and published in the State Gazette.

The Code contains regulations on:

- **The duties of the members of the dental profession during practice;**
- **Promotion of the dental services;**
- **Relationships with the patients;**
- **Patients’ referral;**
- **Medical documentation and professional secrecy;**
- **Payment of the dental services;**
- **Qualification;**
- **Infringements and penalties.**

Bulgarian Dental Association

Registration

- The prerequisite for registration in Bulgaria is a primary degree in dental medicine. The registration of *dental practitioners* is administered by the Bulgarian Dental Association by means of its Regional Colleges. The annual fee for registration (2009) - € 77.
- The registration of the *dental practices* as medical institutions is administered by the Ministry of Health by means of its regional bodies – the Regional Centres of Healthcare.

Bulgarian Dental Association

The number of dentists in Bulgaria is approximately 8000.

Dentist to population ratio - 1/900.

Number of schools – 3.

Student intake – 170.

Number of graduates per year – 150.

Percentage female students – 50%.

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

Qualification degree:

Primary dental qualification - there is an entrance examination, which is one and the same as to that of the medical students. The undergraduate course lasts for 5.5 years.

The three faculties of dental medicine are state (public) – Sofia, Plovdiv and Varna.

The primary degree in Bulgaria is a Physician of Dental Medicine with a Master Degree.

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

Vocational Training

- **Dental graduates in Bulgaria are entitled to registration immediately upon graduation. There is no postgraduate vocational training. There is a 6 months mandatory pre-graduate practical training in the faculties of dental medicine.**
- **Diplomas from other EU countries are recognised without the need for vocational training.**
- **Quality assurance for the dental schools is provided by the Ministry of Education.**

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

Recognised specialties in Bulgaria:

1. **General dental medicine;**
2. **Orthodontics;**
3. **Oral Surgery;**
4. **Paediatric dental medicine;**
5. **Operative dental medicine and endodontic;**
6. **Periodontology and oral mucosa diseases;**
7. **Prosthetic dental medicine;**
8. **Dental image diagnostics;**
9. **Social medicine and dental health organization;**
10. **Dental clinical allergology.**

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

Specialists train in the faculties of dental medicine, and in accredited medical institutions.

Specialisation is administered by the Ministry of Health, with the support of BgDA.

Training lasts for 3 years and concludes with a State Examination (6 state exams).

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

About 98% of dentists in Bulgaria work in liberal practices – especially as general practitioners.

Thus, the oral healthcare is based on:

- **mandatory health insurance;**
- **voluntary health insurance;**
- **private dental services.**

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

Mandatory health insurance was governed by the Health Insurance Act (HIA) (1998, State Gazette N 70), also encompassing the voluntary health insurance, which is at its initial stage. The Act creates legislative framework for the organization of the mandatory health insurance especially.

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

The mandatory health insurance system is designed as a state monopoly. It has the exclusive right to grant mandatory health insurance and to guarantee the observance of the insurance rights in respect of all nationals, following a public contract model.

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

A National Framework Contract is to be signed every year between the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) on one side, and the Dental Association – on the other. Another contract is signed between NHIF and the Medical Association.

The Contracts come into force upon sanction of the Minister of Health.

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

The contracted annual package of activities in dental medicine varies according to the age:

- **one check and four activities per year - filling(s), endodontic treatment(s), extraction(s) of the temporary and permanent teeth for the children up to 18 years;**
- **one check and two activities – only fillings and extractions per year for the adults.**

Among all Bulgarian dentists, over 6100 have contracts with the NHIF.

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

Oral health prevention in Bulgaria

History

100 years ago, in 1911, the first epidemiological survey had been made in Bulgaria in some secondary schools (high schools).

Free of caries – 4.3%

DMFT – 5.43

Също такива подробни статистически сведения съмъ приготвилъ и за нѣколко прогимназии, които, за краткостъ, комбинирахъ въ слѣдната таблица (таблица VI). Отъ нея ясно се вижда, какво об-

Таблица VI.

Прѣгледани ученици и поврѣдени зѣби¹⁾.

Гимназии и прогимназии	Прѣгледани ученици	Ученици съ поврѣдени зѣби	% на учен. съ повр. зѣби	Количество на повр. зѣби	На у-къ по колко повр. зѣби се падатъ
I д. прог.	182	178	97·80	1083	5·14
II " "	395	387	97·97	1898	4·80
III " "	204	201	98·54	1118	5·48
IV " "	234	229	97·87	1296	5·54
III м. "	343	311	90·87	1339	3·09
VI " "	221	194	36·01	705	3·16
II д. гим. педаг. уч.	392	385	98·21	2336	5·95
	274	269	98·18	2324	8·48
Всичко .	2245	2154	95·70	12099	5·43

щиятъ процентъ на болнитѣ зѣби на ученицитѣ отъ споменатитѣ прогимназии и гимназии достига до неимовѣрната цифра 95·70 и на ученикъ се пада срѣдно по 5·43 болни зѣба; тоя процентъ за повечето прогимназии надминава 98.

Prevention of Oral Health Bulgaria

In April 2009 the proposed by the Bulgarian Dental Association (BgDA) and Dr. Nikolai Sharkov a National Programme for Prevention of Oral Diseases in Children 0-18 in Republic of Bulgaria (NPPODC) was adopted by the Bulgarian Council of Ministers.

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

The Programme comprises a national epidemiological survey of oral health which has not been conducted since the 1980s.

21 160 children were checked at the end of 2010.

Some other substantial parts of the NPPODC are:

- **educational and motivating programmes and issuing educating materials for oral health;**
- **correct oral hygiene, diet etc.;**
- **Fluorides;**
- **control of the oral hygiene;**
- **pit and fissure sealants on the first permanent molars of 6-9 years old children;**
- **contemporary research of the levels of fluoride of in the drinking and mineral waters etc.**

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

Continuing education

Continuing education is mandatory. A credit system has been introduced and administered by BgDA. A minimum of 30 points is to be covered in 3 years. The CE is delivered by BgDA, or by other institutions, accredited by BgDA. 1 credit=1 academic hour (45 min.).

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

Continuing education

BgDA organizes per year:

- **More than 90 accredited lectures in total (in all Regional bodies of BgDA) with more than 60 lecturers free of charge for all 8000 members of BgDA;**
- **Up to two symposia free of charge;**
- **One Scientific Congress, which is a part of the FDI Continuous Education Program from the very beginning of its establishment.**

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

Information Policy of BgDA



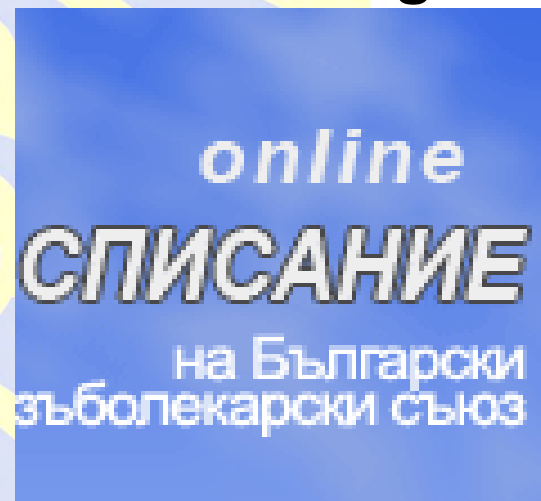
**“DENTA MEDICA”
THE OFFICAL NEWS PAPER OF BgDA**

Oral Healthcare in Bulgaria

Information Policy of BgDA

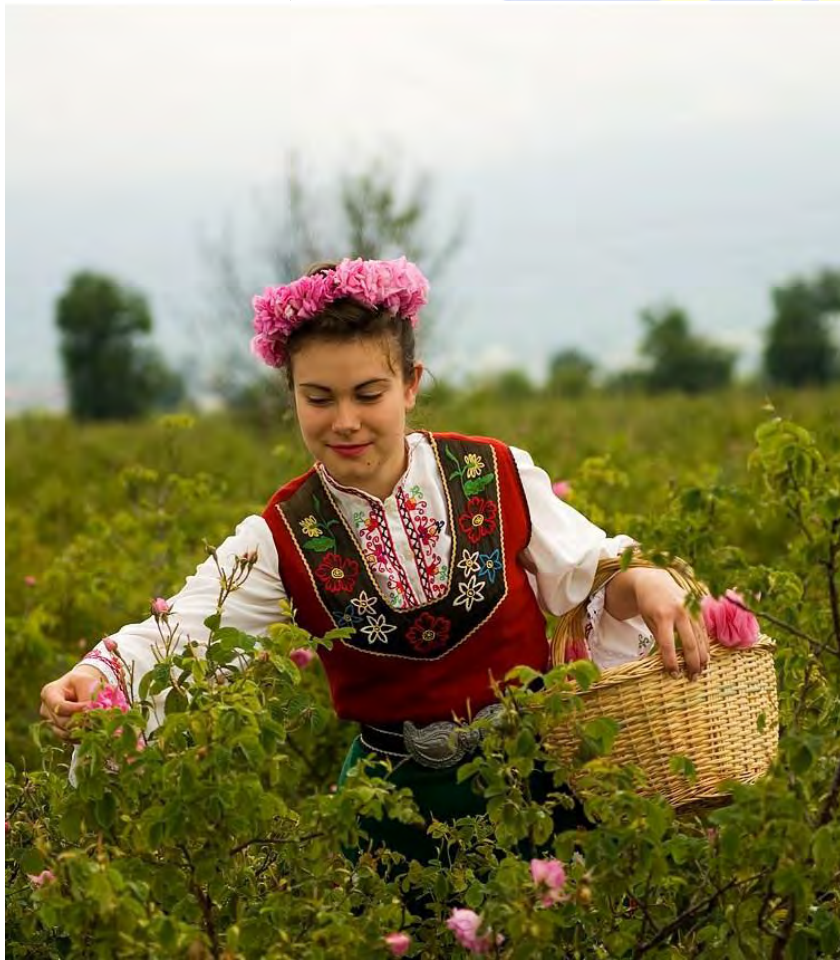
The site of BgDA

The Scientific Online
Journal of BgDA



<http://www.bzs.bg>

<http://journal.bzs.bg>



**Thank you very much
indeed, for your
kind attention!**

Rose-picking season. 1905
Bulgaria – the Country of Roses.

6.6.2011 г.

ERO FDI Plenary Session
14-16 April 2011, Sofia, Bulgaria

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