

Regional European Organisation of the FDI

National Report

Country: Austria

Association: Austrian Dental Chamber

Venue:

Year: 2020

Please classify your national report by following subjects:

Changes

in the association and its organisation

No changes, but elections in May 2021

Trends and developments:

in professional politics

Due to COVID-19 crisis Austrian Dental Chamber and its regional organisations were in very intensive work-stress through the whole year, on the one hand to organise personal protective equipment for dentists and their team, on the other hand to convince patients and politics, that dentistry is safe also in Corona-times, and to lobby politics to guarantee financial aid for dentists.

Towards the end of the year Austrian Dental Chamber was able to include dentists and their team into the first priority group for vaccination (first dentists were vaccinated in Austria starting with January 10th 2021, all dentists should be vaccinated by end of February 2021).

in health and social politics

Though there were three hard lockdowns due to COVID-19 throughout the year in Austria (March 15th -May 15th, November 3rd – December 8th, December 26th – February 8th) dental offices were open all the time (only in between March 15th – April 3rd reduced to emergency care) and providing their services to the public.

in educational politics

No changes, but theoretical university training online throughout almost the whole year 2020

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

No changes, but because of losses due to COVID-19 dentists got a guarantee of at least 80% of their insurance fees of 2019 to help to keep them financially liquid.

Corporate Dentistry

position of NDA towards dental chains

Austrian Dental Chamber is due to quality reasons against the establishment of dental chains

problems with dental chains

as they are not really established in Austria we did not face any problem up to now

possible solutions

Austrian Dental Chamber is actively trying to find new solutions for young dentists (new forms of cooperation like job-sharing and others) in order to make the liberal profession of dentistry on a self-employed basis as attractive as it was in the past.

Changes in fees:

Dental fees inside social security system were raised by 1,65% with January 1st 2021.

Information regarding promotion of the World Oral Health Day:

Austrian Dental Chamber was actively promoting World Oral Health Day in all available dental media.

Further information (activities):

What are your 3 main concerns?

COVID-19, Corporate dentistry, migration of dentists

3 points you would like to discuss

Same as above