

## ***Regional European Organisation of the FDI***

### ***National Report***

**Country:** ***Switzerland***

**Association:** ***Swiss Dental Association SSO***

**Venue:** ***Year: 2020***

*Please classify your national report by following subjects:*

#### ***Changes***

*in the association and its organisation*

Dr Jean-Philippe Haesler was re-elected as President as well as the other board members. Dr Christoph Epting replaced Dr Marcel Cuendet. The voting was done via mail by the delegates.

#### ***Trends and developments***

*in professional politics*

The board of the Swiss Dental Association SSO is reinforcing its efforts to take younger dentists on board. A working group has been created to find out about the needs of students and young dentists. The structure of the website will be more adapted to the needs of the members.

*in health and social politics*

The year 2020 was, as in all countries around the globe, a special one. Despite the efforts by the Swiss Dental Association have been increased to access this part of the population, it was difficult to get them in the dental clinics, as they are very vulnerable to the COVID 19 virus.

*in educational politics*

2020 was also a special year for the students and the dental schools due to the pandemic 128 students graduated. 64% were females. 20% of them will do a specialisation training at universities, which lasts between 3 and 4 years.

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

*there are still several referendum for a mandatory insurance for dental care, was rejected in several Latin cantons. The SSO is fighting this referendum because SSO stands for a free and independent relation between patients and their dentists. Due to the pandemic the political process concerning this matter, has more or less stopped in 2020.*

**Corporate Dentistry**

*position of NDA towards dental chains*

Not favourable because we fear the same problems that occurred in Spain, France and other countries. Dentistry shouldn't become a field for profit maximising investors.

*problems with dental chains*

Investors buy dental offices for a price that is way over the market price and therefore make it difficult for young dentists to open their own office.

Aggressive advertising, misleading the patients occurs frequently with such chains.

*possible solutions*

Owners of the office should be dentists. Limited number of employed dentists per office. Change in law is needed.

*Changes in fees:*

None

*Information regarding promotion of the World Oral Health Day:*

*Further information (activities):*

***What are your 3 main concerns?***

- That after the pandemic, the already high hygiene standards that were raised during the pandemic will stay at the level they were raised to, which means a lot of additional administration work.
- Immigration of dentists and the differences in their qualifications
- New EU regulations like data protection or medical devices

***3 points you would like to discuss***

- How to go back to normal life in dental clinics after the pandemic
- New EU regulations like data protection or medical devices and eventually hygiene
- Immigration of dentists and the differences in their qualifications