



## **CED PRESS RELEASE OF 25 JULY 2014**

### **AHEAD OF EUROPEAN ORAL HEALTH DAY: ORAL HEALTH AND DIABETES**

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The Council of European Dentists (CED) will celebrate the European Oral Health Day on 12 September 2014.

This year's Day will focus on the theme of 'Oral Health and Diabetes'. Diabetes mellitus is a syndrome of abnormal carbohydrate, fat and protein metabolism that results in acute and chronic complications due to the absolute or relative lack of insulin. It is a disease with concomitant oral manifestations that impact dental care. These can be gingivitis and periodontitis, dental caries, salivary gland dysfunction, oral mucosa disease, oral infections and oro-facial sensory disturbances.

'Oral health and diabetes' is a timely issue because during the last decade the number of the people suffering from diabetes increased dramatically in the EU and around the world while public awareness of how to prevent oral disease in diabetes patients is rather poor. This presents a unique opportunity to raise awareness about the links between diabetes and oral health and about the important role dentists can and increasingly do play in early diagnosing and managing patients with diabetes across the EU.

#### Background information:

The Council of European Dentists is a European not-for-profit association which represents over 340,000 practising dentists through 32 national dental associations and chambers from 30 European countries. Its key objectives are to promote high standards of oral healthcare and effective patient-safety centred professional practice across Europe, including through regular contacts with other European organisations and EU institutions

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