

CED ACTIVITIES INFO

Issue 2 – March 2013

COUNCIL OF
EUROPEAN DENTISTS



Introduction

*This second newsletter of the year takes a closer look at **CED Working Group eHealth**. Section I continues to report on the political activities of the CED President, Board members and to summarise the work of the other CED Working Groups and Board Task Forces.*

SECTION I – CED ACTIVITIES

CED PRESIDENT

PLATFORM FOR BETTER ORAL HEALTH EVENT

On 5 March, **CED President Dr Wolfgang Doneus**, was invited to speak at a debate organised by Platform for better oral health in Europe and hosted by MEP Karin Kadenbach in the European Parliament. The purpose of the event was to start discussing draft [2020 Targets for better oral health in Europe](#). The President presented the CED as the representative organisation of dentists in the EU and pointed out the CED activities in connection to oral health. He questioned whether the presented 2020 Targets were implementable, realistic and sustainable. The President suggested focusing on projects that directly benefit the patient and are sustainable, and setting clear priorities, taking into account the need for involvement of dentists who are in daily contact with the patients. After the event, the President also met with the Platform members to further discuss the Targets.

CED BOARD

MEETING ON 22 MARCH

On 22 March, the **CED Board of Directors met in Brussels** for its regular quarterly meeting. During the meeting, the Board members reviewed CED political activities since their November meeting and

discussed current political developments related to the Professional Qualifications Directive (PQD), the Medical Devices Regulation and the General Data Protection Regulation.

The Board agreed that **Oral health and tobacco will be the theme for the 2013 European Oral Health Day** and approved a number of initiatives by CED working bodies in preparation of the May General Meeting in Dublin, such as the draft CED resolution on continuing professional development. They reviewed CED finances, the update of the CED Manual of Dental Practice and the CED communications activities.

CED WORKING GROUPS (WG)

WG EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS (EPQ)

On 7 February, **CED Head of Office Nina Bernot, and CED Policy Officer Aleksandra Sanak, met with a representative from the European Commission's Directorate General for Internal Market and Services** to discuss the PQD and the provisions related to dentists. The CED has supported expressing the minimum duration of dental studies in 5000 hours in addition to 5 years; this appears to now be supported both by the European Parliament and by the Council. It is expected that an agreement on the PQD can be reached under the Irish Presi-

dency, by end of June 2013.

Former WG member, Ms Barbara Bergmann-Krauss, attended on 12 March the meeting of the ESCO Reference Group "Healthcare and social work activities".

The Reference Group is currently working on definitions of competences for different professions.

On 15 March, **WG EPQ met in Brussels**. WG members discussed the CED's draft resolution on continuing professional development (CPD) as well as the possibility to develop a position on vocational training. WG also noted that CED Members should keep on contacting their competent ministries and asking their support in the Council for the dentists' position on the PQD.

On 15 March, the **CED and ADEE Task Force met in Brussels** to further discuss the Draft Annex 5.3.1 to the PQD, with the intention of developing a common proposal for including in the Annex competences for dentists.

WG EHEALTH

On 29 January, **WG Chair, Dr Piret Väli, attended the meeting of the eHealth Stakeholders Group in Brussels**. The Group discussed the eHealth Action Plan and a future green paper on eHealth that is being prepared by the European Commission, patients' access to electronic health records, interoperability and legal issues. There was also a presentation on eHealth Governance Initia-



tive project by Mr Clemens Martin Auer from the Austrian Ministry of Health.

In February, the CED contributed to the work of the eHealth Stakeholders Group with a questionnaire on patients' access to electronic health records.

WG MEDICAL DEVICES

On 19 February, **CED Head of Office Nina Bernot, and CED Policy Officer Aleksandra Sanak, attended a breakfast debate** with shadow rapporteurs MEPs Holger Kraemer (ALDE, Germany) and Rebecca Taylor (ALDE, UK). CED Head of Office presented the CED position on the UDI system, on the proposed implant card and on the need for continued involvement of stakeholders in the system through the future Medical Device Coordination Group.

On 18 March, **WG chair Dr Edoardo Cavallé, Board liaison Dr Roland L'Herron, WG members Dr Stefaan Hanson and Nina Bernot met with a representative of Health Technology and Cosmetics Unit, DG SANCO, European Commission**, to discuss the Commission's proposal for the Medical Devices Regulation. CED representatives asked for clarifications on a number of definitions as they relate to dentistry and presented CED position on the proposal, stressing the possible negative impact the current definition and classification of nanomaterials would have on cost of dental materials and consequently on oral health of Europeans.

WG ORAL HEALTH

On 8 February, **CED Head of Office Nina Bernot attended a meeting hosted by CPME and attended by different stakeholders and representatives of regions on preventing functional decline and frailty**. The CED confirmed its intention to contribute to a joint pro-

ject on preventing frailty, specifically through improving health literacy of patients on important links between oral and general health and on impact of poor oral health on the early onset of frailty.

WG Oral Health held an online meeting on 6 March. WG members discussed possible themes for the 2013 European Oral Health Day which will be celebrated on 12 September. They agreed to propose to the CED Board that the theme for 2013 should be Oral health and tobacco, taking into account the damage that tobacco is causing to the health of Europeans and the ongoing revision of the Tobacco Products Directive. WG Oral Health will prepare template messages on this important issue for CED members to use in their national campaigns to raise awareness about the consequences of tobacco use and the important role that dentists can play in smoking cessation. WG Oral Health will meet in April to discuss CED position on the Tobacco Products Directive proposal.

WG PATIENT SAFETY

On 15 February, **CED Head of Office Nina Bernot, and CED Policy Officer Aleksandra Sanak, participated in a coordination meeting of stakeholders involved in the Joint Action on Patient Safety and Quality of Care (PaSQ)**. The meeting focused on experiences of stakeholders in collecting patient safety practices through an online questionnaire. By the deadline of 28 February, 11 questionnaires on practices were submitted by CED members. PaSQ receives funding from the European Union, in the framework of the Health Programme.

On 8 March, **CED Policy Officer Aleksandra Sanak attended the meeting of the Patient Safety and Quality of Care Working**

Group (PSQCWG) in the European Commission. The meeting was attended by the Commission, representatives of Member States, stakeholders and international organisations. The Working Group discussed the draft work plan and working methods of the PSQCWG for 2013-2014. The future work of the PSQCWG will focus on three areas with the aim of developing recommendations/guidelines: reporting and learning systems in Member States, education and training of health workers and revision of the reflection paper on quality of healthcare. Out of those, work on two will be carried out in subgroups. CED will participate in the subgroup on education and training of health workers led by Poland. Work will start in April 2013 and will be completed by March 2014. Several countries and other stakeholders have also expressed their interest to participate.

CED BOARD TASK FORCES (BTF)

BTF COMMUNICATIONS

On 21 March, **BTF Communications met in Brussels** to discuss the review of the CED website. CED will be updating its website to better serve its members and to better communicate with other interested parties. BTF members met with three website designers and discussed the possible design and functionalities of the new website.

BTF LIBERAL PROFESSIONS

On 6 March, **BTF Liberal Professions held an online meeting** to discuss, among other issues, the Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan. The CED has expressed an interest in participating in the working group to assess the needs of liberal profession entrepreneurs which is to be set up under the Action Plan.

SECTION II – CED WORKING GROUPS

eHEALTH (WG eHEALTH)

HISTORY

WG eHealth was established during the CED General Meeting in May 2011 in Budapest due to the increasing importance of eHealth at EU level and growing number of related projects that might affect healthcare professionals. WG eHealth prepared as a first step a CED resolution on eHealth which was adopted unanimously by the CED General Meeting in November 2012. The resolution stressed that dentists must have access to patients' relevant medical data. They should not be allowed to change any data about procedures they have not carried out themselves and can only be liable for the information included in the records by them. The resolution supported a minimum common set of patient data which should also include dental information to have a clear and effective system for functioning of eHealth. Patients must have access to their medical data which is highly sensitive and must be secured appropriately in line with relevant EU data protection legislation. It recognised the difficulties inherent to development of a uniform codification system for diagnosis and treatments to achieve semantic interoperability of eHealth systems in dentistry and support preferably the development of common codes or, as alternative, correspondence tables in EU Member States with regard to treatment codes. Finally, it recommended the implementation of national certification procedures for dental software and highlighted that it should be possible for all patient data to be exported into an open and standardized format to ensure competition and avoid loss of data.

The current mandate of the WG was adopted by the CED General Meeting in May 2012.

CURRENT ACTIVITY

Since 2012, the CED has been participating in the eHealth Stakeholders Group of users and industry representatives which provides a platform for stakeholders to contribute to the development of legislation or policy related to eHealth, and to analyse the implementation of the SNOMED CT classification in different EU countries. The CED is represented in this Group by WG Chair, Dr Piret Väli (member) and WG member, Dr Jørn André Jørgensen (substitute). The CED has recently contributed to the work of the eHealth Stakeholders Group with a questionnaire on the patients' access to electronic health records.

WG members, Dr Jørn André Jørgensen and Dr Eric Delaeter, also attend the meetings of the IHTSDO's (International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation) Dental Special Interest Group which is developing harmonised nomenclature for dental diagnosis codes.

WHO MAKES THIS POSSIBLE

WG members are at the heart of CED policy. WG eHealth has 8 members from 8 CED Member or Observer countries. Among these are:

- **Dr Piret Väli** – CED WG Chair, Estonian Dental Association, Estonia;
- **Dr Pirkko Grönroos**, CED Board member liaison, Finland;
- **Dr Eric Delaeter**, VVT, Belgium;
- **Dr Oleg Gladkov**, Bulgarian Dental Association, Bulgaria;
- **Dr Jørn André Jørgensen**, Norwegian Dental Association, Norway;
- **Ms Ulrike Matthesius**, BDA, United Kingdom;

- **Dr Alexander Tolmeijer**, NMT, The Netherlands and

- **Mr Sven Tschoepe**, BZÄK, Germany.

If CED Members wish to receive further information about any of the items mentioned in the newsletter, please contact: ced@eudental.eu