

# Preliminary Opinion on Competition among health care providers in the European Union - Investigating policy options

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## Chapter/section

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OPINION



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The CED strongly welcomes this preliminary opinion as it correctly captures the challenges and difficulties of introducing competition in the healthcare sector, while demonstrating that this sector needs to be treated in a manner that takes into account its specificities.

The CED hopes that the important conclusions addressed therein are taken into consideration by Member States and EU institutions when drafting and proposing any regulation which might affect healthcare professionals and healthcare systems.

The CED asks for this preliminary opinion to be widely distributed and publicised in particular among the services of the European Commission which are carrying out the mutual evaluation and transparency exercise under Article 59 (transparency) of the Professional Qualifications Directive (2013/55/EU amending Directive 2005/36/EC). This exercise aims at reviewing national legal frameworks governing the access to regulated professions including the healthcare sector. For European dentists, current national regulations are a necessary guarantee for maintaining high levels of patient safety and quality, and any change would undermine the high standards of delivery of healthcare and dental education, jeopardizing patient safety.

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