

CED ACTIVITIES INFO

Issue 1 – January 2014

COUNCIL OF
EUROPEAN DENTISTS



Introduction

Welcome to the 1st issue of CED Activities Info of 2014! Section I reports on the political activities of the CED President, Board members and summarises the work of CED Working Groups, Board Task Forces and the Brussels Office. In Section II, CED member associations share their positions on current issues.

SECTION I – CED ACTIVITIES

CED PRESIDENT

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU) BETWEEN CED AND CPME



On 15 January, CED President Dr Wolfgang Doneus and the President of the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME), Dr Katrín Fjeldsted signed in Brussels a [MoU](#) to reaffirm the commitment of both organisations to cooperate to achieve high quality of healthcare for every patient in Europe.



CED and CPME Presidents agreed that this year the main priority is the antimicrobial resistance, committing to promote prudent prescription practices and to raise awareness about the importance of preserving antibiotics' efficacy. They further agreed to meet on an annual basis to exchange information and discuss common issues of the EU agenda affecting dental and medical professions. The MoU formalises the long-standing history of collaboration between both organisations.

MEETING WITH NEW HEAD OF UNIT IN DG MARKT

On 15 January, CED President met the new Head of Free Movement of Professionals Unit in DG Internal Market, Mr Martin Frohn and his team. The purpose of the meeting was to present the CED and stress the urgency of updating Annex 5.3.1. of Directive on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications (PQD) which still dates from 1978. CED President reiterated the support of the profession to introduce competences in Annex 5.3.1, mentioning that the CED and the Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE) had been working to prepare a joint resolution on competences for dental practitioners and that both organisations intended to continue to cooperate in drafting a joint position on the list of subjects for Annex 5.3.1.. The meeting was also attended by the CED Policy Officer Sara Roda.

CED GENERAL MEETING AND BOARD

GENERAL MEETING ON 22 NOVEMBER

Representatives of CED member and observer organisations met in Brussels on 22 November 2013 for a regular six-monthly General Meeting. During the plenary session, CED Members unanimously adopted a [position on the Minamata Convention concerning dental amalgam](#) and two resolutions: [Resolution on environmental management of dental materials: responsible practice: 2013 update](#) and [Resolution on dental amalgam: 2013 update](#).

CED Members also unanimously approved Croatia's request to become a full member of the CED.

CED Members welcomed the final adoption of the amended PQD by the EU Council on 15 November 2013. The main features concerning the dental profession include **basic dental training comprising at least five years of study, which may in addition be expressed with the equivalent ECTS credits and consisting of at least 5 000 hours of full-time theoretical and practical training**, possibility for Member States to refuse partial access to the profession on the grounds of public health concerns, obligation for Member States' competent authorities to alert, through a specific alert mechanism, the authorities of other Member States about professionals who are no longer entitled to practice as a result of a disciplinary ac-



tion or criminal conviction, and possibility for Member States' competent authorities to conduct language controls in order to verify that professionals are in possession of necessary language skills.

BOARD ELECTIONS



Members of the Board (from left to right): Dr. Landi, Dr. L'Herron, Dr. Sanderson, Dr. Tolmeijer, Dr. Doneus, Prof. Dr. Sharkov and Dr. Grönroos (Dr. Engel is missing).

During the CED General Meeting in November 2013, **CED Members elected four members of the CED Board**, re-electing Dr Susie Sanderson (United Kingdom) as Treasurer and Dr Peter Engel (Germany), Dr Pirkko Grönroos (Finland) and Dr Roland L'Herron (France) as Directors for another three-year term. They join the current President Dr Wolfgang Doneus (Austria), Vice-President Dr Marco Landi (Italy), and Directors Prof. Dr Nikolai Sharkov (Bulgaria) and Dr Alexander Tolmeijer (the Netherlands).

CED WORKING GROUPS (WG)

WG AMALGAM AND OTHER RESTORATIVE MATERIALS

On 29 January, the Commission launched a [public consultation on the safety of the use of bisphenol A in medical devices](#). WG Amalgam and WG Medical Devices are analyzing [SCENIHR's preliminary opinion](#) and the pertinence of a CED response to the consultation. The latter is open until 26 March.

WG EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

On 20 December 2013, the **WG met online to discuss and provide input to an EU-wide questionnaire**

on Continuous Professional Development (CPD). The latter was being prepared by a consortium led by CPME [in which the CED is a partner along with the European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN), the European Midwives Association (EMA), the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) and the Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union (PGEU)], contracted by the European Commission to carry out a [review and mapping of CPD and lifelong learning \(LLL\) for health professionals in the EU](#).



Mr Balazs Lengyel (DG SANCO, European Commission) with CED President at the CED General Meeting on 22 November 2013, presenting the CPD tender.

The consortium kick-off meeting took place on 16 October 2013 in Luxembourg and was attended by the CED Head of Office Nina Bernot. The WG also discussed the **European Association of Hospitals Pharmacist's request for cooperation in the recognition of specialties via common training principles**. The WG scheduled its next online meeting for 7 February 2014 to continue to discuss these and other issues related to education and professional qualifications.

WG EHEALTH

WG eHealth met on 18 October 2013 in Amsterdam and on 20 January in Brussels. WG members discussed the draft CED resolution on online evaluations of dentists, the CED contribution to the IHTSDO's (International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation) Dental Special Interest Group,

the eHealth Stakeholders Group and the state of play of the proposed General Data Protection Regulation. During the 18 October meeting, the WG also took the chance to participate in a **workshop organised by the Dutch Dental Association – NMT, on codes and dental diagnostic terminology, and its advantages in oral health**. One of the lectures was dedicated to study the EZCodes (developed in 2009 by a diagnostic terminology research work group led by Dr Kalenderian of the Harvard University) and to the Dutch Dental Standard. During the meeting on 20 January 2014, the WG met with the chair of the eHealth Working Group of CPME, Dr Konstanty Radziwill to discuss potential areas of cooperation in the field of eHealth between the two organisations. WG scheduled its next online meeting on 6 March 2014.

WG MEDICAL DEVICES

On 10 December 2013, CED Policy Officer Aleksandra Sanak attended the **conference 'Improving Quality and Safety of Healthcare: the Role of European Service Standards' organised by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN-CENELEC)**. During the conference presentations on the standardisation work in relation to healthcare services, the European policy context, the European standardisation system and some examples of the standardisation work in the area of healthcare services on both European and national level. The European Commission also presented the [Annual Union Programme for European Standardisation](#) which foresees a feasibility study to identify current international and national standards, analyze the needs and define standards that could be developed.

On 16 January 2014, CED Policy Officer Aleksandra Sanak attended the **Medical Devices Expert Group meeting** in Brussels. During the

meeting various legislative issues and initiatives as well as main activities of MDEG Working Groups were discussed.

WG PATIENT SAFETY

On 4 November 2013, CED Policy Officer Aleksandra Sanak attended the **meeting of the Commission-led Patient Safety and Quality of Care Working Group (PSQCWG)**. The participants discussed the activities of the subgroups on reporting and learning systems and on education and training of health professionals. The European Commission presented the preparatory steps for the 2nd implementation report of the Council Recommendation 2009/C151/01. One of the steps is a [public consultation on patient safety and quality of care](#) launched by the Commission and open until 28 February 2014. CED WG Patient Safety will prepare a reply on behalf of the CED.

CED Policy Officer Aleksandra Sanak represented the CED during the **3rd coordination meeting of stakeholders involved in the Joint Action on Patient Safety and Quality of Care (PaSQ) which took place on 17-18 October 2013 in Paris**. The CED participates in the Joint Action as an associated partner in the work package on identifying, assessing and sharing best clinical practices on the local clinical level where patient and health professionals interact (WP4). WP4 leader reported on the progress of tasks which had been carried out and presented the next steps towards the final WP4 report.

On 29 January 2014 Aleksandra Sanak attended on behalf of the CED the **PaSQ back-to-back meeting of WP4 in Budapest**. The aims of the meeting were to get an overview of data on patient safety practices, to discuss the next round of focused data collection, review and display. There was also a presenta-

tion of a document being prepared by WP7 (Network Sustainability) on the post-PaSQ activities.

Since 21 January 2014, the database of Patient Safety (PSPs) and Quality of care (GOPs) good practices is on the public part of the PaSQ website. A number of practices submitted by CED members and our partners have been included in the database. Thank you for your contributions!

PaSQ receives funding from the European Union, in the framework of the Health Programme, and the CED is an associated partner.

CED BOARD TASK FORCES (BTF)

BTF ANTIBIOTICS IN DENTISTRY

On 15 November 2013, CED Policy Officer Sara Roda attended in Brussels an [EU-level stakeholder event marking the 6th edition of the European Antibiotic Awareness Day \(EAAD\)](#). The EAAD is an annual European health initiative that takes place on 18 November to spread the message about the threat to public health of antibiotic resistance and the need for prudent antibiotic use. To this purpose, the Commission published on the same day the [2013 Eurobarometer survey on antimicrobial resistance](#) and latest data by the [European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control \(ECDC\) on antibiotic resistance in the EU and EEA countries](#).



On 11 December 2013, CED Policy Officer Sara Roda attended a **Joint Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance**, organised by the Com-

mission in Brussels. The objective of the conference was to hold a mid-term review of the [Commission's action plan against the rising threats from antimicrobial resistance](#). Ahead of the conference, the Commission requested each participant to fulfil out a questionnaire and used the results to draft the conclusions of the conference. **The CED response, prepared by the BTF Antibiotics, focused on the challenges for stakeholders.** It noted that the main limitation in dentistry were inconsistent antibiotic prescribing guidelines. To the question on what should be the role of stakeholders, the CED encouraged i) the development and application of consistent evidence-based guidelines, stressing the need to gain support from other stakeholders; ii) working with other professions to develop patient information material; iii) raising awareness with individual patients on the appropriate use of antibiotics; and iv) providing support and publicising awareness raising initiatives. During the conference, the **CED, CPME and the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) joined forces to publish a leaflet which provided advice and raised patients' awareness to use antibiotics responsibly.**

BTF LIBERAL PROFESSIONS

On 16 October 2013, Florian Lemor (BZÄK), Alfred Büttner (BZÄK) and Aleksandra Sanak attended a public hearing 'Liberal Professions in Europe – Challenges and Potentials' organised by the EPP Group in the European Parliament. The participants discussed the characteristics and achievements of liberal professions, the impact of the Single Market legislation, the regulatory framework, and the fundamental pillars for the execution of liberal professional services and their contribution to the Single Market.

BTF INTERNAL MARKET

On 7 November 2013, **BTF Internal Market and BTF Liberal Professions met online** to discuss the [Commission's Communication on evaluating national regulations on access to professions](#) and the impact that this evaluation and transparency exercise carried out by Member States would have in the healthcare sector, in particular in dentistry. The CED sees this initiative with some concern if the path chosen by Member States is of profession's deregulation and suppression of essential requirements which were established to safeguard public health and patients.

CED BRUSSELS OFFICE

STATE OF EUROPE'S HEALTH

On 28 November 2013, Aleksandra Sanak attended an **event 'State of Europe's Healthcare'**. During the event the Euro Health Consumer Index (EHCI) 2013 was presented. The EHCI compares healthcare systems in Europe and is compiled using a combination of public statistics, patient polls and independent research conducted by Swedish NGO Health Consumer Powerhouse (HCP). It uses 48 indicators such as patient rights and information, accessibility, prevention and outcomes. The full report and the EHCI 2013 are available [here](#).

ADDRESSING HEALTH INEQUALITIES: 2014 AND BEYOND

On 23 January 2014, Aleksandra Sanak attended a **conference 'Addressing health inequalities: 2014 and beyond'** which was the final conference of the [Joint Action on health inequalities 'Equity Action'](#), involving the EU and the member states. Equity Action has worked to strengthen the effectiveness of policy making and strategic actions to reduce health inequalities at EU, regional and member states levels.

During the conference the results of the Joint Action were presented. The participants also discussed opportunities and priorities for action.

SECTION II – CONTRIBUTIONS BY CED MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

THE 9TH BZÄK EUROPEAN DAY

The 9th BZÄK European Day in the light of the European Elections 2014 – Position settings in times of crisis
The 9th European Day of the Bundeszahnärztekammer will take place on the 9th of April 2014 in the former Veterinary School's Anatomical Theatre of the Humboldt University in Berlin. This event will focus on the upcoming European elections. At the end of May 2014, European citizens will be called upon to decide on the composition of the European Parliament for the next five years. With the impact of the ongoing economic and euro- crises we focus for the first time on a pan-European subject, which contains considerable explosive elements.

Moreover, over the years to come, important health policies and internal market policies at European level have to be tackled. At the same time a possible revision of the Services Directive, because of its possible consequences for the health care professions should be bore in mind. Furthermore, the European Commission is currently focusing on the regulated professions and their self-governing bodies. Within the scope of the BZÄK's 9th European Day, political debates will be held with candidates of political parties running for the European elections concerning their European political objectives.

Contributed by the Bundeszahnärztekammer

If CED Members wish to receive further information about any of the items mentioned in the

newsletter, please contact:
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