



Clinic Training in Europe of Future Dental Practitioners: a Needed Update

1978

Adoption by 6 countries of Directive 78/687/EC which defines the minimum "Basic dental training" to be provided in all Dental Schools.

Only an "adequate knowledge of clinical disciplines and methods" and a "suitable clinical experience under appropriate supervision" are required.

2005

The 1978 Directive is incorporated into a broader text – Directive 2005/36 – which covers all regulated professions.

The 1978 training programme remains unchanged. 4 enlargements take place.

The dental training programme remains unchanged. 2 enlargements take place.

2024

On 4 March the 1978, the minimum training programme is updated.

8 new subjects are added or renamed.

The 1978 standard for clinical training remains unchanged.

9 countries are candidates for EU membership.

In May, the Assembly of States from the WHO decides it is needed to adopt an action plan to improve the situation of oral health 2023–2030.

2024

In January, O-Health-Edu, an Erasmus+ funded-project, presents the state of Oral-Health training in Europe and reports on the heterogeneity of clinic training.

The dental profession is the 5th most mobile profession in Europe.

2016

Directive 2005/36 is updated.

The 1978 training programme remains unchanged.

A student survey in Europe highlights a feeling of inadequate clinical preparation.

Within the CETA, Canada's representatives refuse to engage with the EU in a mutual recognition agreement for dental qualifications.

2024

In September during a public consultation run by the Commission, all stakeholders (academics, professionals, regulators, students) unanimously call for a simple and rapid update of the minimum clinical training required in the EU.

2025

A new study conducted by dental students in Europe still highlights the persistent feeling of inadequate clinical preparation. It is conveyed to the European Commission on 8 April 2025 during a public meeting held in the European Parliament.

A mere amendment to the Directive's Annex can improve the situation.



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of Dental Regulators