

## FDI European Regional Organisation - National Report

### Report from France for the year 2024

#### \* French Dental Association (ADF) \*

### Changes in the association and its organisation

Implementation of the new Salesforce CRM within the ADF, a genuine tool for centralising and monitoring all of our organisation's activities. This change led to a new exhibitor registration process in January 2024 and the creation of a new learner registration platform scheduled to open in June 2024.

The ADF has updated its Articles of Association and its internal regulations, which were approved at the Extraordinary General Meeting.

### Trends and developments

#### In professional politics

##### Convention

Second year of the agreement (2023-2028) between the professional unions, health insurance and supplementary insurance companies, with implementation starting in February 2024).

Major themes (over the 5 years):

- Investment in prevention and conservative care, to improve the use of preventive care among children, adolescents and young adults, with the aim of creating the first 'generation without cavities'. The age group targeted for implementation is 3 to 24 years old (increase in treatment prices + 30%; 100% reimbursement of fluoride varnishes, etc.).
- Price increases for conservative treatments and ceilings for C2S basket prosthesis prices (UHC system)
- 100% cover for zirconia crowns on molars and zirconia base bridges
- Creation of a 'White Consultation' for disabled patients
- Improved coverage of periodontal care for patients with chronic diseases (inclusion of 5 new diseases)
- Creation of a specific oral check-up when patients move into EHPAD (retirement homes for the elderly)
- Annualization of the Oral Dental Examination for children aged 3 to 18, with 100% reimbursement of consecutive treatments.

- Introduction of a new methodology for territorial zoning of dental care provision, with incentives (to maintain or create a practice) and regulatory measures for areas with an excess of practitioners.

## Dental Team

### Dental Assistant level 2

Given the number of successive changes of government and health ministers, many projects have been put on hold, including the creation of a level 2 dental assistant.

However, by 2024, the delegated acts and skills of this future profession have been listed. The training and assessment pathways still need to be defined (an estimated 2 years' work).

As a reminder, only level 1 assistants will be able to progress to level 2. Training will take the form of a sandwich course leading to a qualification (like the dental assistant qualification). The ADQ2 will carry out delegated tasks (prophylaxis, radiology, orthodontics), will work like the ADQ1 under the responsibility and effective control of the practitioner and their number will be limited to 1 ADQ2 for 1 practitioner present in the care structure.

## Education – Training

### Periodic Certification

The aim of periodic certification is to guarantee, at regular intervals throughout a practitioner's career, the maintenance of skills, the quality of professional practices and the updating of knowledge. In force since 1 January 2023, its implementation has been delayed due to political factors and the need to harmonise the procedures for the 7 healthcare professions concerned.

It should be noted that from this date onwards, all continuing training activities, and in particular CPD activities, will be taken into account as part of the first certification period covering 2023 to 2029.

The decree of 22 March 2024, which sets out the scope and content of periodic certification, requires the healthcare professionals concerned to demonstrate, over a period of 6 years, that they have carried out at least two actions for each of the four blocks.

Other regulations, such as the decree on the management of individual accounts and the decree on audit procedures, are currently being drafted. The roles of the various players, including healthcare professionals, the National Professional Councils (CNPs) and the professional bodies, remain to be clarified.

The Professional Commission, comprising the CNPs (CD - CO- MBD- ODF), submitted its proposed guidelines to the DGOS on 17 July. These standards must precisely define the skills expected, taking into account the following criteria:

- Compliance with professional standards;
- Compliance with regulatory obligations;
- Integration of validated advances in knowledge and technology (such as digital health);
- Changes in practices;
- Organisation of development areas to facilitate the creation of a personalised action programme.

The ADF is involved in training throughout the year (congresses-CPD-publications) and through the CNP and the professional commission, the ADF plays an active part in the success of certification for the safety of care and greater efficiency of the healthcare system in the current context of constant changes in knowledge and techniques.

### **Information about World Oral Health Day**

The ADF rarely undertakes specific actions on this day, knowing that one of its members, the Union Française pour la Santé Bucco-Dentaire, organises events on the day.

However, this year, due to the Olympic Games, the organisational schedule has been modified, with actions spread over the first half of 2024 and not specifically on D-Day.

### **Dental chains**

On 16 August 2023, the French government (DGOS) published new instructions concerning the procedure for improving the supervision of health centres.

According to the DGOS, the creation of an approval procedure will help to '[combat the excesses of certain health centres](#)' when applications are submitted.

The accreditation file will include

- the health project ;
- declarations of the links of interest of all the members of the governing body;
- contracts linking the managing body to third-party companies.

Any centre 'will not be authorised to provide dental care [...] if it has not submitted the required application for approval'.

### **Further information**

- ADF Congress

The 2024 edition of the ADF Congress once again established itself as the must-attend event for the profession, with the mission of highlighting the best of the dental world. Thanks to an exhibition space packed with innovations, and to your dynamism, this year's event was a remarkable success.

The many exchanges and fruitful sharing of knowledge continue to drive our profession forward. Over five days, 29,747 participants came through the doors of this international congress, including 5,033 learners (16.9% of visitors). The majority of them were practising dentists (15,086), which confirms the

importance for the dental profession of meeting exhibitors to discover their products, innovations and equipment, and taking part in face-to-face training while sharing moments of conviviality.

The number of foreign participants was stable, with a France/International breakdown of : 88.49 % /11.51 % thanks to the establishment of partnerships or cooperation with Lebanon, Dubai, Canada and no special links with the member countries of the ORE and the FDI ... It is with this in mind that the ADF Congress will continue to welcome speakers from different countries in order to further develop its international dimension.

The scientific programme was made up of 103 sessions led by almost 400 speakers, and offered a rich, multidisciplinary approach to general medicine. New teaching formats were tried out, such as 100% video sessions or 6-hour cycles over one day, combining theory and practice around a theme.

Innovation was celebrated with the 'Product of the Year 2025' awards. Two winners were honoured: Dentsply Sirona's Primescan 2 intraoral scanner in the Equipment category, and SDI's Stela composite in the Consumables category.

A special ADF prize for sustainable development was also awarded to GACD for its concrete actions to reduce its carbon footprint.

Finally, the ADF continued to organise free diabetes screening on a dedicated stand, to enable all our professionals to take stock of their health.

**See you at ADF 2025: from 24 to 29 November.**

- Continuing Education

The ADF's training structure (ADFDPC-Formation) has set up a dedicated website <https://www.adfdpc.fr/> .

It offers a range of online training courses to help practitioners meet their three-year continuing professional development (CPD) obligation.

The training themes and formats are varied, including

- Oral dermatology
- Dental traumatology
- Integrating periodontics more effectively into daily practice
- Bonding and adhesion
- Treatment of the edentulous patient

**New topics such as antibiotic prescribing and antibiotic resistance were addressed.**

At the ADF 2024 Congress, 3 specific CPD sessions were held (intra-family violence, digital flow and care of patients at risk, etc.).

- Communication

As part of its support and training mission, the ADF has put 2 'Tooth magazines' (free digital magazines) on line:

- History of dentistry
- Providing for your entire working life

<https://adf.asso.fr/tooth>

- Action and advocacy

Since 2005, the **French Dental Association (ADF)** and **Comident** (the only organisation bringing together manufacturers and distributors of dental equipment, materials and new technologies serving dental professionals and patients) have joined forces to bring oral health out of the public policy blind spot.

As a result of this unique coalition, which reflects a collegial awareness, the ADF and Le Comident have continued their work of calling on government bodies to adopt a national oral health strategy. As part of this, the ADF commissioned a medico-economic survey from a specialist firm on the indirect medical cost of periodontal disease and the burden of associated pathologies.

- Eco responsibility

For a number of years, the ADF has been raising awareness of eco-responsibility among the dental profession and other players in the world of dentistry, and of how to take action to be more virtuous in this area. During the congress, the ADF took part with Comident in a session on the subject to show how everyone could reduce their carbon footprint by taking sensible action on the part of both practitioners and manufacturers.

This conference supports all the material already made available (book, TOOTH, website, etc.).

## **Points you would like to discuss**

- More interaction between countries training dentists and those welcoming young graduates