



The Council of European Chief Dental Officers

PRESS RELEASE

Chief Dental Officers from all over Europe met in Warsaw

Warsaw, 8th October 2011 - The Council of European Chief Dental Officers (CECDO) autumn-meeting 2011 took place in Warsaw from 6th to 8th October at the invitation of the Polish Ministry of Health. The meeting coincided with the meetings of Chief Medical Officers and the Chief Nursing Officers. Delegates from the three organisations attended a dinner together.

The CECDO members were welcomed by the Deputy Minister of Health, Marek Haber, and the Director of the Department of Mother and Child, Dagmara Karbasinska.

The first day of the meeting was devoted to the local situation describing the public health care system in Poland, an overview of the oral health of the Polish people, undergraduate and post-graduate education of dentists and the role of the Polish scientific associations. Recent research in oral topics was presented in the afternoon, the following topics were covered: Periodontitis and premature birth, early childhood caries, oral care of the disabled and facial and cranial clefts in children.

The topic for the CECDO workshop held on the second day was specialisation in dentistry. After an introduction two working groups discussed the need for dental specialties, which specialties were recognised in different European countries, possible changes in the numbers of specialties and the CECDO-policy on specialties.

CECDO put emphasis that there is a need for specialised care in dentistry, for a variety of reasons, especially in order to improve the quality of care and patients' safety. This may be provided by a recognised specialist or special trained dentist. There should be a Pan-European agreed list of competencies for each specialty in order to enhance harmonisation and standardisation.

The CECDO launched an Oral Health Promotion program in Romania, namely in Constanta and in Targu Mures together with Colgate, Henry Schein and Carestream Health. Dental students from both dental schools will coach the personnel in Placement Houses and Old Aged homes which will teach their clients in proper oral hygiene and dental health promoting diet.

The CECDO thanks the Ministry of Health, Department of Mother and Child for hosting the Meeting. The next meeting will take place in Copenhagen, Denmark, from 11th -13th April 2012.

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