



The Council of European Chief Dental Officers

POSITION PAPER

CECDO position paper on team dentistry

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As dentistry has developed, more and more materials, instruments and technologies have become available. Patient needs and expectations are changing with greater need for prevention, which can be delivered through team dentistry. In addition there has been a considerable demand for higher standards of infection control.

As a result it is extremely difficult for a dentist to operate alone.

Oral health care has diversified into new areas requiring a multi-disciplinary approach to dentistry. As a consequence new types of oral health care professionals have evolved and there has been a trend for dental specialties to cope with a wider range and complexity of patient needs.

The cooperation with other oral health care professionals enables more patients to be treated at a higher level of care.

It is essential that there is excellent leadership and coordination within a dental team. There is therefore a clear need for team dentistry to face these challenges and those of the future.

CECDO recognises the added value of the team approach in respect to patients' safety and quality of care. Within this approach it is essential that all members of the dental team work within their competencies comply with ethical standards and are accountable for their own work. The role and tasks of the members within the team must be clearly communicated to the patient.