



**Council of European Dentists**

# **MANUAL OF DENTAL PRACTICE 2014**

## **Liechtenstein**

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**with**

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February 2014

The revised EU Manual of Dental Practice (Edition 5) was commissioned by the Council of European Dentists<sup>1</sup> in April 2013. The work has been undertaken by Cardiff University, Wales, United Kingdom. Although the unit had editorial control over the content, most of the changes were suggested and validated by the member associations of the Council.

#### **About the authors<sup>2</sup>**

**Dr Anthony Kravitz** graduated in dentistry from the University of Manchester, England, in 1966. Following a short period working in a hospital he has worked in general dental practice ever since. From 1988 to 1994 he chaired the British Dental Association's Dental Auxiliaries' Committee and from 1997 until 2003, was the chief negotiator for the UK's NHS general practitioners, when head of the relevant BDA committee. From 1996 until 2003 he was chairman of the Ethics and Quality Assurance Working Group of the then EU Dental Liaison Committee.

He gained a Master's degree from the University of Wales in 2005 and subsequently was awarded Fellowships at both the Faculty of General Dental Practice and the Faculty of Dental Surgery, at the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

He is an Honorary Research Fellow at the Cardiff University, Wales and his research interests include healthcare systems and the use of dental auxiliaries. He is also co-chair of the General Dental Council's disciplinary body, the Fitness to Practise Panel.

Anthony was co-author (with Professor Elizabeth Treasure) of the third and fourth editions of the EU Manual of Dental Practice (2004 and 2009)

President of the BDA from May 2004 until May 2005, he was awarded an honour (OBE) by Her Majesty The Queen in 2002.

**Professor Alison Bullock:** After gaining a PhD in 1988, Alison taught for a year before taking up a research post at the School of Education, University of Birmingham in 1990. She was promoted to Reader in Medical and Dental Education in 2005 and served as co-Director of Research for three years from October 2005.

She took up her current post as Professor and Director of the Cardiff Unit for Research and Evaluation in Medical and Dental Education (CUREMeDE) at Cardiff University in 2009. With a focus on the education and development of health professionals, her research interests include: knowledge transfer and exchange; continuing professional development and impact on practice; workplace based learning.

She was President of the Education Research Group of the International Association of Dental Research (IADR) 2010-12.

**Professor Jonathan Cowpe** graduated in dentistry from the University of Manchester in 1975. Following training in Oral Surgery he was appointed Senior Lecturer/Consultant in Oral Surgery at Dundee Dental School in 1985. He gained his PhD, on the application of quantitative cyto-pathological techniques to the early diagnosis of oral malignancy, in 1984. He was appointed Senior Lecturer at the University of Wales College of Medicine in 1992 and then to the Chair in Oral Surgery at Bristol Dental School in 1996. He was Head of Bristol Dental School from 2001 to 2004.

He was Dean of the Faculty of Dental Surgery at the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh from 2005 to 2008 and is Chair of the Joint Committee for Postgraduate Training in Dentistry (JCPTD). He has been Director of Dental Postgraduate Education in Wales since 2009. His particular interest now lies in the field of dental education. He was Co-ordinator for an EU six partner, 2-year project, DentCPD, providing a dental CPD inventory, including core topics, CPD delivery guidelines, an e-learning module and guidelines (2010-12).

**Ms Emma Barnes:** After completing a degree in psychology and sociology, Emma taught psychology and research methods for health and social care vocational courses, and later, to first year undergraduates. Following her MSc in Qualitative Research Methods she started her research career as a Research Assistant in the Graduate School of Education at the University of Bristol, before moving to Cardiff University in 2006, working firstly in the Department of Child Health and then the Department of Psychological Medicine and Clinical Neurosciences.

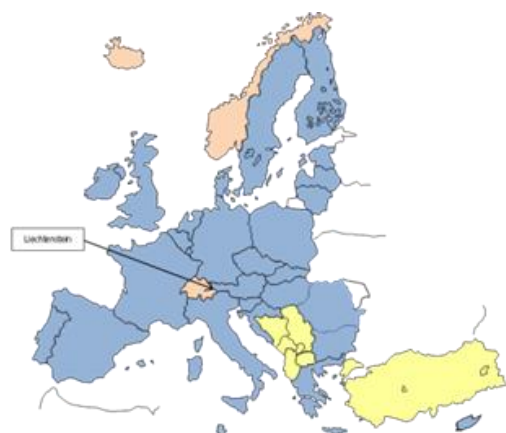
In 2010 Emma joined Cardiff Unit for Research and Evaluation in Medical and Dental Education (CUREMeDE) as a Research Associate. Working in close collaboration with the Wales Deanery, (School of Postgraduate Medical and Dental Education), her work focuses on topics around continuing professional development for medical and dental health professionals, and knowledge transfer and exchange.

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## Liechtenstein



### Government

The Principality of Liechtenstein was established in 1719; it became a sovereign state in 1806. Since 1919 the Principality has been in customs and monetary union with Switzerland (the Swiss franc is the national currency). The country is mountainous, sandwiched between Austria and Switzerland and its area is a mere 160 sq km. The population is 37,009 (2013) and the capital is Vaduz. The country is a constitutional monarchy, and there is a unicameral Parliament (*Landtag*) of 25 seats, elected by proportional representation for four-year terms.

Despite its small size and limited natural resources, Liechtenstein has developed into a prosperous, highly industrialised, free-enterprise economy with a vital financial service sector and living standards on a par with the urban areas of its large European neighbours. The Liechtenstein economy is widely diversified with a large number of small businesses, and dental products being a major export material.

Date of last revision: 24<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Liechtenstein has been a member of the European Economic Area since May 1995. The unit of currency is the Swiss Franc (CHF).

### Healthcare

The main form of healthcare provision is mandatory insurance against the effects of diseases including accidents, similar to the system in Switzerland. The system is established by law, and is compulsory for everyone living in Liechtenstein, who pay a basic annual fee of approximately CHF 2,500 (€1,715). The patient pays 50% and the employer the other 50%. In addition the government pays approximately CHF 1,600 (€990) for each person.

	Year	Source
% GDP spent on health	9.2% 2004	OECD
% of this spent by governm't	76.1% 2004	OECD

There is no public fluoridation in Liechtenstein, although there is salt fluoridation.

	Year	Source
% GDP spent on oral health	3% 2004	OECD
% of OH expenditure private	No data	

### Training

There is no dental school, so Liechtenstein's dentists are usually trained in Switzerland or Austria.

### Registration

Dentists from Liechtenstein or from EU/EEA partners, with a diploma from an EU/EEA university must be registered by the *Amt für Gesundheitsdienste*, a public authority. The annual registration fee in 2013 was €820.

### Workforce

#### Dentists

Year of data:	2013
Total Registered	57
In active practice	48
Dentist to population ratio*	771
Percentage female	23%
Qualified overseas	57

\* active dentists only

Most dentists in Liechtenstein work in general practice. There are few working in the research in the dental industry.

The usual retirement age for dentists is 65.

#### Specialists

In 2013 there were 2 orthodontists, 1 periodontist and 1 oral surgeon in Liechtenstein.

#### Auxiliaries

Clinical dental auxiliaries are trained in dentists' offices and go to school in Switzerland. They are registered with the *Berufsbildungsamt*, another public authority. There is no fee payable to register.

Year of data:	2013
Hygienists	8
Technicians	27
Denturists	0
Assistants	105
Therapists	0
Other	

Hygienists are trained in Switzerland, in the EU or the USA.

Dental technicians and chairside assistants mainly are trained in Switzerland, and register with the *Berufsbildungsamt*. There is no fee for registration of chairside assistants or dental technicians.

## Practice

Year of data:	2013
General (private) practice	45
Public dental service	
University	
Hospital	
Armed Forces	
General Practice as a proportion is	94%

## Professional Matters

	Number	Year	Source
Liechtenstein Dental Association	28	2013	LDA

The Liechtenstein Dental Association also had 16 guest members in 2013. There are also guest members, who practise outside Liechtenstein. The Association handles ethical issues and continuing education.

For further information, please contact the President of the Liechtenstein Dental Association.

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## Financial Matters

GDP at PPP (per capita) in 2009 was €66,300 [source CIA Worldfactbook]

### Pensions

These are paid from the age of 64 and are based on annual average earnings, calculated based on employment income, contributions made while nonemployed, and recognised care-giving periods for children or persons in need of care.

They are funded by proportionate contributions from earnings (up to 7.8% for the self-employed), with no maximum limit of earnings.

### Taxes

#### Income Tax

Rates for national income tax are progressive up to 7%. Municipal multipliers range from 1.5 to 2.5 (ie theoretical maximum combined rate of 24.5%, although in 2013 the multiplier does not exceed two in any municipality)

#### VAT

Based on the Customs Union Agreement of 29 March 1923, Liechtenstein is considered part of Switzerland for VAT purposes. VAT applies to the sale of goods and services in Liechtenstein, and to the import of goods and services into Liechtenstein. Exports of goods and services are, in principle, zero-rated

The standard VAT rate is 8%. Dental materials are charged at this standard rate. Certain goods and services are subject to a reduced rate of 2.5% (this includes medicaments and prophylaxis materials). Other services (for example, dentistry and most banking services) are exempt. A special 3.8% rate applies to the hotel and lodging industry.

