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CED PRESS RELEASE OF 12 SEPTEMBER 2013 COUNCIL OF EUROPEAN DENTISTS CELEBRATES EUROPEAN ORAL HEALTH DAY: ORAL HEALTH AND TOBACCO

The Council of European Dentists (CED) is pleased to celebrate 12 September, the European Oral Health Day.

On the occasion of the European Oral Health Day, European dentists stress that tobacco is one of the greatest public health challenges the world faces today. Every year tobacco kills around 700,000 Europeans. The impact of tobacco use on oral health is considerable. It is responsible for the mostly untreatable cancers in the mouth and the throat and other diseases and conditions of the mouth.

Tobacco remains the largest avoidable health threat in the EU. Tobacco cessation is effective and dentists play an important role in preventing harmful effects of tobacco. In most European countries dentists have frequent contacts with the population which allows for early prevention and provides opportunities to educate patients about the dangers of tobacco.

For more on these issues, please see

• CED Resolution on the proposed Tobacco Products Directive

Background information:

The Council of European Dentists is a European not-for-profit association which represents over 340,000 practising dentists through 32 national dental associations and chambers from 30 European countries. Its key objectives are to promote high standards of oral healthcare and effective patient-safety centred professional practice across Europe, including through regular contacts with other European organisations and EU institutions.

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