

BRUSSELS OFFICE UPDATE

CED WORKING GROUPS AND BOARD TASK FORCES

CED BOARD MEETING, SEPTEMBER 2026

WG Dental Materials and Medical Devices (DMMD)

- **WG meetings:**
 - ➔ Latest meeting: 10 February, online
 - ➔ Upcoming meeting: TBC

Medical Devices Regulation:

- **Update on legislative simplification:** as a reminder, on December 16, 2025, the European Commission proposed a targeted legislative revision to drastically simplify the Medical Devices Regulation (MDR) and In Vitro Diagnostic Regulation (IVDR). The CED has so far:
 - **Provided a reply to the published proposal on the Have Your Say portal.**

In particular, the CED expressed support for the elimination of the five-year validity period for certificates, viewing it as a significant step toward reducing the administrative burden on manufacturers. For healthcare providers and particularly for the dental sector, this transition is vital to ensuring the continuity of the supply chain and safeguarding the availability of essential medical devices without the pressure of unnecessary cost increases. While the abolition of the fixed 5 year validity period for certificates is a major regulatory advancement, the current wording may still introduce some regulatory uncertainties. The broad discretion granted to Notified Bodies to impose specific conditions or limitations and to conduct proportionate reviews is not yet supported by sufficient methodological detail. In the absence of a harmonized assessment framework, this could lead to differences in interpretation and application among Notified Bodies, where comparable devices could potentially be assessed differently depending on internal policies or practices. This lack of clarity may replace a predictable administrative hurdle with a less predictable review process, creating ongoing uncertainty for manufacturers and other stakeholders. Such uncertainty could also have consequential effects on the healthcare sector, potentially impacting device availability, timely patient access, and planning for clinical use.
 - **Provided a set of amendments in relation to the European Parliament report on the legislation,** aimed at streamlining market availability, reducing bureaucratic duplication, and ensuring that healthcare professionals such as

dentists are kept well-informed in the event of potential medical device shortages. Furthermore, our proposals call for the establishment of clear criteria for equivalent devices, safeguarding access to safe, high-quality dental care. The amendments were disseminated to key MEPs involved in the file in July 2026. A large number of amendments was submitted by MEPs in relation to the EP report, the Board is presented an analysis of these in document CED-DOC-2026-041-E.

- **Well Established Technologies (WET):** in end of August 2026, CED was approached, as member of the Medical Devices Coordination Group (MDCG), to provide suggested questions for a Q&A document on WET. The document is going to be prepared by NBCG Med (the Notified Bodies Coordination Group), along with the European Commission and other MDCG configurations. As a reminder, two delegated acts on well-established technologies (WET) under the Medical Devices Regulation were published earlier this year, and the Q&A will focus on them. Well-established technologies are relatively simple devices, with common and stable designs that don't evolve much, well-known safety and clinical performance characteristics, and a long history on the market (as such, a lot of dental medical devices can fall under this category). The WG prepared a few questions – at the time of writing of this document, the questions are expected to be submitted (provided final approval of the Board), by the deadline of 11 September. Further updates on the topic are provided in document CED-DOC-2026-042-E.
- **Dental abutments and haemostatic sponges:** CED member ANDI suggests to continue the discussion on haemostatic sponges and dental abutments. ANDI's objective is to reduce the administrative burden imposed by the MDR on dental practices for the registration and retention of UDI records, particularly for very widely used medical devices that pose little or no real clinical risk, despite their formal classification as Class IIb or Class III devices.

CED Board: guidance as necessary.

WG eHealth

- **WG meetings:**
 - ➔ Latest meeting: 27 February, hybrid
 - ➔ Upcoming meeting: 15 October, hybrid

Digital Omnibus on Data:

- **Updates on legislation:** The European Union's Digital Omnibus proposal affecting the GDPR is currently under negotiation between the European Parliament and the Council, with final adoption not expected before late 2026 or 2027. The EP is also awaiting a formal impact assessment report. Over the coming months, the

rapporteurs will negotiate "compromise amendments" to synthesize the hundreds of changes submitted by different political factions.

- **Statement with PGEU and other associations:** the CED was invited to join a co-branded statement on Digital Omnibus calling on the European Parliament and the Council to ensure that simplification measures do not weaken the protection of sensitive health data, patient confidentiality, professional secrecy or trust in healthcare. In particular, the statement addresses the use of health data in AI development, profiling, the commercial use of inferred health information and the limits of pseudonymization. At the time of writing this update, all participating organisations envision launching the text around mid-September.

European Health Data Space:

- **Semantic Interoperability:** The CED received a request to reply to a **consultation prepared on behalf of the European Commission's DG SANTE and HaDEA**, as part of the project "Support Centre for the European Electronic Health Record Exchange Format (EEHRxF) and for the Interoperability and Security of Electronic Health Record Systems". This contract is carried out by EY in partnership with FORTH and aims to provide implementation support for the adoption and interoperability of EHR systems across Europe in line with the European Health Data Space (EHDS) Regulation. The survey focuses on semantic interoperability and data harmonisation as essential foundations for meaningful, consistent and clinically safe cross-border EHR exchange. The input collected will support the identification of priority gaps, effective practices and concrete needs for tools, guidance and capacity-building in this area. It will directly inform the thematic workshop of this cycle and follow-up actions, including the consolidation of requirements and specifications, the definition of validation rules and the development of a digital toolkit for the format and harmonised components of EHR systems.

The overall objective is to examine how healthcare organisations and ecosystem actors manage clinical terminologies, structured data and data transformations, and to identify practical challenges related to semantic alignment, terminology mapping, multilingual complexity and data quality. The questions address both clinical and technical perspectives, including the use of standard terminologies, structured templates and tools supporting semantic consistency and harmonised data structures.

The prepared and submitted reply is available as CED-DOC-2026-043-E.

On the same topic, **the Support Centre invited CED to join an upcoming webinar on the topic of semantic interoperability on 25 September**. The workshop is open to all interested stakeholders on the topic and will especially

involve stakeholders working directly on standards development, technical implementation and clinical workflows critical to semantic interoperability, in relation to European Health Data Space. Chair Peter Kukolik, WG member Stefaan Hanson, and Senior Policy Officer Nikoleta Arnaudova have registered to attend.

- **Implementing acts on European Health Data Space:** The European Commission is tasked with adopting around twelve key implementing acts before the March 2027 deadline. These acts provide the granular technical, security, and operational specifications needed to execute the broad mandates of the European Health Data Space Regulation. The main upcoming and recently initiated implementing acts are structured around three core areas: governance, primary data use, and secondary data use. The WG continues to monitor any published implementing acts and providing replies to the ones of relevance. As a reminder, CED replied to the consultations on the implementing acts focused on requirements for cross-border exchange of personal health data, and on identity management.

WG Education and Professional Qualifications (EPQ)

- **WG meetings:**
 - ➔ Latest meeting: 3 February 2026, online
 - ➔ Upcoming meeting: 13 October, online

The upcoming WG meeting is to take place online on 13 October.

Public Consultation & Call for Evidence on the Skills Portability Initiative

The Skills Portability Initiative was initially announced in March 2025 under the Union of Skills.

The CED contributed to the consultation and call for evidence on the European Commission's Skills Portability Initiative on Friday 27 February.

The consultation and calls for evidence were seeking to collect evidence and information on foreseeable and effective measures for improving recognition of skills and the automatic recognition principles in place for regulated professions.

The CED response focused on several main points, including:

- The clarification and strengthening of clinical training requirements under the PQD
- The incorporation of a list of practical competence
- The clarification of a ratio between theoretical and practical education
- The better harmonisation and understanding of various credit systems and their use in different Member States, and the explicit mention of an equivalent minimum 300 ECTS credits under the PQD
- The use European Digital Credentials for Learning (EDC) and accreditation schemes for continuing professional development (CPD) with the end goal of developing common recognition agreements of frameworks for EU-acquired CPD credits.

- The establishment of digital authenticity measures and fraud-proof digital credentials
- The establishment of common tools for providing proof of equal and common clinical training skills
- Support with the Commission's suggestion to develop adaptation periods and aptitude tests for third-country nationals in the process of applying for the recognition of their qualifications.

The final Skills Portability Initiative is expected to be released in September 2026 as part of the upcoming Fair Labour Mobility Package. Expected measures include a revision of the PQD for the inclusion of a Common Training Framework for an additional profession, physiotherapy, as well as a foreseen initiative targeting the recognition of third-country qualifications.

The WG is closely monitoring any developments on the file.

Implementation Report on the Professional Qualifications Directive

The [PQD Implementation Report](#) was published on 20 February 2026. The publication was also accompanied by a more in-depth [Commission Accompanying Working Document](#).

The document highlights that no technical revisions of the Directive relating to training requirements are being considered. It also strongly underlines the national autonomy and competence of Member States in defining and shaping national education and training systems and the diversity of training approaches. The Commission is remaining cautious with regards to extending its delegated powers for updating training requirements under the Directive.

The WG is therefore not expecting a revision or a strengthening of training requirements under the Directive.

ADEE and EDSA General Meetings – Collaboration on Graduate Requirements

The CED, represented by Katalin Nagy and Clara Luciani, recently attended both ADEE and EDSA General Meeting from 25-28 August in Budapest.

WG Chair, Katalin Nagy, participated as a speaker in an EDSA Panel event on the topic “If oral health is part of general health, why are dentists educated separately?”, alongside Prof. James Field, from the University of Cardiff, and Prof. Jean-Noël Vergnes, from the University of Toulouse.

Katalin Nagy also took part as a panel speaker in an ADEE Plenary Session dedicated to discussing the evolution of European oral health professions education, alongside Hungary EPP MEP Dr. András Tivadar Kulja, and a group of stakeholders from EDSA, FEDCAR, the Platform for Better Oral Health, the CECDO and ADEE.

Specialties and Periodontology

A letter of guidance was shared with the European Federation of Periodontology in March with an outline of the official procedure for introducing an additional specialty

under the Professional Qualifications Directive and suggested steps to be taken from the side of the organisation.

A follow-up email was sent to the EFP, enquiring into foreseen actions and any required support from the CED. The EFP is still looking into how to proceed and will get back to the CED if any future collaboration is needed.

BTF Internal Market (IM)

- **BTF meetings:**
 - ➔ Latest meeting: 12 March 2026
 - ➔ Upcoming meeting: TBC

EU Health Workforce Crisis Plan- Own Initiative Report:

During the last meeting, the Chair provided an update on the 'EU Health Workforce Crisis Plan' Own-Initiative Report, noting that dentistry was not specifically mentioned in the current draft. The final plenary vote was scheduled for May 18, 2026 but was postponed, and is now expected on 15 September 2026 (at the time of writing this document). The text prepared for plenary mentions dentistry specifically in two sections:

'Promoting the role of primary care

60. Calls for greater support for general practitioners, nurses, primary dental care providers and the primary healthcare workforce, recognising their pivotal role in prevention, health promotion, early diagnosis, disease management and integrated physical and mental care; calls for this role to be supported by creating incentives for the establishment of general practice clinics and expanding training and education capacities for general medicine, including the generational renewal of the healthcare workforce; insists that EU funding should contribute to financing joint training and digital infrastructure to ensure comprehensive integration of primary care and specialist services, enabling, for instance, the establishment of tele-consultation networks that improve patient access to care and alleviate waiting times; encourages the promotion of prevention and health literacy from a young age to reduce the burden on the primary healthcare workforce; underlines the importance of continuous dialogue with social partners, healthcare workers and other stakeholders, and calls on the Member States to ensure comprehensive consultation processes with regard to any policy changes;'

Tackling inequalities in access to healthcare

41. Recommends the introduction at both EU and national level of incentives for making rare specialities attractive for doctors, nurses, midwives, dentists, pharmacists, paramedics and other medical or non-medical/healthcare professionals who complete advanced education and training pathways, including in emergency situations and in areas that are difficult to cover, such as the many medical deserts across the EU;'

Supportive Courses for Foreign-Trained Dentists

During the last meeting, the Chair introduced the proposal from KNMT for the additional training for non-EU dentists to improve their adaptation to national healthcare systems. While the importance of ensuring educational quality was acknowledged, it was emphasized that professional regulation remains a national competency. The group discussed the legal constraints of imposing mandatory requirements on EU dentists, noting that any additional training must remain voluntary and not act as a barrier to the right to practice. Instead, the focus should be on addressing knowledge gaps regarding host countries' financial systems, patient rights, and ethical frameworks.

The consensus was that the CED should focus on sharing best practices and developing voluntary recommendations.

CED – ERO collaboration

Following the joint survey conducted with ERO in 2025, the results have been published in an academic article titled 'Corporate Dentistry in the European Union: Legal Frameworks and Structural Characteristics.' This publication provides a comprehensive analysis of the legal and structural impact of corporate actors within the EU dental sector. Further publications are upcoming, through the work and efforts of Thomas Wolf.

WG Patient Safety, Infection Control and Sustainability (PSICS)

- **WG meetings:**
 - ➔ Latest meeting: 9 March 2026
 - ➔ Upcoming meeting: end of September/start of October 2026, online

CBCT questionnaire: The WG prepared and launched a questionnaire on CBCT radiography and the relevant regulations. It received 23 replies. The replies to the questionnaire are available for Board information under number CED-DOC-2026-037-E. Further action following the questionnaire will be discussed at the upcoming WG meeting.

Update of mandate: the WG Chair envisions an update to the mandate, to reflect better the sustainability topic. It is expected to be voted at the November 2026 General Meeting.

WG Oral Health (OH)

- **WG meetings:**
 - ➔ Latest meeting: 26 January, Online
 - ➔ Upcoming meeting: 21 September, online

Prevention and accessibility of oral healthcare

The CED White Paper on Oral Health Promotion and Oral Disease Prevention in Europe has been finalized.

As a reminder, this paper acts as an update of two outdated CED policy papers: the 2019 CED White Paper on Oral Care: “Prevention is better than cure” and the 2011 CED Resolution “For Better oral health of all EU citizens: Mutual Integration of Oral and General Health”, while integrating new and targeted EU recommendations.

The latest amendments were integrated into the draft in June 2026. A new call for comments was sent to the WG, in preparation for the upcoming WG meeting on 21 September.

As agreed by the WG, an expert, Prof. William Papaioannou from the University of Athens, provided input and feedback on the third version of the draft. Prof. Dr. Papaioannou specializes in preventive and community dentistry. The draft was disseminated to him.

Following the Board’s decision on 13 March 2026, a paragraph restating the key benefits of sodium fluoride in oral disease and caries prevention was integrated into the paper.

The White Paper will be presented for adoption at the November GM.

Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA)

A first version of the White Paper on Obstructive Sleep Apnea has been drafted and will be presented to the WG on the 21 September.

It focuses on the strong collaborative approach dentists must maintain alongside medical and specialised doctors, and as such, the supportive role of dentist within interdisciplinary teams of healthcare professionals.

The paper provides an overview of the prevalence and complexity of obstructive sleep apnea, as well as an outline of existing clinical guidelines for diagnosis and treatment, and finally the role of the dentist in the integrated management of OSA, including general dentists as well as orthodontists and oral maxillofacial surgeons.

It also outlines recommendations for the development of comprehensive EU guidelines aimed at clarifying and harmonising the role and scope of practice of dentists, within the multidisciplinary team of healthcare professionals responsible for the management of OSA.

Once a first version is developed, the paper is to be shared with the European Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine, for input and feedback.

The White Paper is to be presented for adoption at the November GM.

Survey on restorative dental materials

The results of the first survey on restorative dental materials, following the amalgam ban, were presented at the latest CED GM in May.

Following the conclusions of the survey, the WG agreed to launch a second survey to collect additional details and clarifications of specific points and issues that arose from the first survey. This included the need for additional details on discrepancies between legally declared coverage in each country and the effective reality of the availability and accessibility of alternative dental materials for the general population.

The second draft survey is available in Working Documents of the September Board Meeting. It will be presented to the WG on 21 September.

Sugar and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)

Following the CED policy event on the 25 March, and within the context of the preparation of initiatives under the EU Cardiovascular Health Plan, the WG prepared a Lobby Package on Sugar, for use by CED national dental associations.

This lobby package includes a fact sheet compiling figures on sugar production and consumption in Europe and its oral health effects, as well as a template letter to support national dental associations in any planned or new advocacy and outreach activities to national Ministries of Health or Agriculture or other relevant institutions.

The WG will discuss these supportive tools at the September meeting.

AMR

WG member Alessandra Rossi has been confirmed as the new CED representative to the European Commission AMR One Health Network from the 1 July. She was appointed in place of the previous CED representative, Harry-Sam Selikowitz.

External Relations

WG Chair, Vasileios Stathopoulos was invited to contribute to an online Policy Café, hosted by the European Dental Students' Association (EDSA) on 18 July, alongside the ERO General Secretary, Dr. Doris Seiz. The session addressed Oral Health Policy, Prevention and European Collaboration.
