

AUSTRALIA: Country Report 2013-2016

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National President
Dental Hygienists Association of Australia Ltd.**



Current membership total: 1166 members

Total registered dental hygienists in Australia: 1918

Total registered oral health therapists (dual qualified in hygiene and therapy) in Australia: 1296

The past three years have seen a number of significant changes for the DHAA; changes which will ensure that the Association functions effectively in terms of resources, finances and members support.

Successful restructure of the DHAA

After lengthy consultation and feedback from the membership and establishing a taskforce, the DHAA planned a significant organizational restructure, which was to see eight separate legal entities (one National and seven State branches, each with their own constitution) restructured into one single-entity National Association. The advantages of this restructure include a single voice in advocacy, better services to members, increased operational effectiveness and greater economies of scale, portability of membership and reduced reliance on volunteers.

In November 2014 the membership voted in favor of the DHAA restructure, including registering as a Company Limited by Guarantee and adopting a new constitution. As of January 2016, all State Branches have ceased operations and we are now operating solely as DHAA Ltd. The newly restructured organisation has strengthened our financial position and enabled us to explore options for an office premises, as well as further support staff for the Association.

Strengthening industry relationships and collaborations

The DHAA has been building and strengthening relationships with our colleagues throughout the health sector, to build awareness of the role of dental hygienists and improve political standing. We have representation on the National Aged Care Alliance, National Oral Health Alliance, National Primary Health Care Partnerships and the 'Rethink Sugary Drink' Alliance. We were also the first and only association representing dental practitioners to support the Recognise Health Statement, which promotes understanding of the important link between health and wellbeing and constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The DHAA have represented the dental hygiene profession in a number of key meetings and forums, including: National Oral Health Plan Reference Group and KPI Workshop, Dental Board Scope of Practice and Infection Control forums, Australian Dental Council forum and working group for the review of the Attributes and Competencies for the Newly graduated Dental Hygienist, Minimal Intervention Dentistry group meetings, Alliance for a Cavity Free Future meetings and the Dental Industry Reference Committee to the Industry Skills Council.

Advocacy

The DHAA have provided written submissions on a number of issues to various Government Departments, Senate Committees and directly to Ministers, regulatory bodies (Australian Health

Practitioner Regulation Agency and Dental Board of Australia), and accreditation bodies (Australian Dental Council). We also prepare Media Releases in consultation with key stakeholders, most notably the National Oral Health Alliance (eg. National Partnership Agreement (NPA) on Adult Public Dental Services, and its support for the Child Dental Benefit Schedule (CDBS) and the National Oral Health Promotion Plan.)

High quality continuing professional development

The DHAA continues to provide affordable, high-quality continuing professional development (CPD) events for our members. Annually, we hold a successful National Symposium, which allows delegates to meet their annual CPD requirements for registration. We continue to attract generous sponsorship from our Corporate Partners, including negotiation of joint Principal Sponsors for Symposium (Colgate and Oral-B).

New website and membership database

We have invested substantial funds into a new membership database and website, which will facilitate a more responsive connectivity with members, as well as a wider variety of member renewal options, online CPD and registration for events.

Member support

Communication and engagement

Over the past three year the DHAA has aimed to increase member engagement through social media, including Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Some key social media statistics:

- 1700+ likes for FB page, reaching 5000+ users some weeks
- 8400+ followers on Instagram
- 64 Twitter followers

We also keep in regular contact with the members through regular email campaigns, and providing four high-quality issues of our publication “The Bulletin” throughout the year.

Industrial relations

The major industrial relations (IR) focus currently is maintaining the confirmed award-free status of dental hygienists which has been threatened by proposed changes to the Health Professionals Award. That arbitration work commenced in 2015 and will continue over the coming months. It is part of the four-yearly review of modern awards process by Fair Work Commission.

The DHAA provide an IR advice line as a service to members, which aims to support members in a generalised way with questions pertaining to contracts, long service and other leave entitlements, bullying, unfair dismissal and other workplace issues. The IR team also has the ability to take on special cases where particular circumstances have a far-reaching impact on the profession as a whole. In those cases, prior approval is sought from the DHAA Board before enlisting the services of an industrial relations specialist.

The current scope of practice for oral health professional practicing in Australia is managed by the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency (AHPRA) and due for review in June 2017.



Canadian Dental Hygienists Association: Report to the IFDH House of Delegates Meeting

June 2016

Advocacy: *Public policy environment is increasingly favourable to members' ability to practice as primary health care providers*.*

Seniors

There are now more Canadians over the age of 65 than under 25. Access to care for our aging population is a key priority for CDHA. CDHA has compiled research in the area of seniors' oral health and is developing a position paper on *Oral Health in Long Term Care: Improving the Quality of Life for Older Adults*.

Electronic cigarettes (E-cigarettes)

CDHA continues to advocate for the increased public awareness and appropriate regulations that enhance the safety and health of the public with respect to e-cigarettes. CDHA has a [position statement](#) and [fact sheet](#) to support our advocacy efforts. We also work on a multi health care coalition that is working closely with the federal tobacco directorate to implement plain paper packaging by 2019.

Community Water Fluoridation (CWF)

Community water fluoridation is a cost-effective and important public health intervention that CDHA continues to promote.

Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB)

CDHA has been working hard to ensure improved access to care for our indigenous populations. The government program that funds oral health services has just agreed to accept claims from dental hygienists working with these underserved populations.

Oral Care in the North Through the federal government's Children's Oral Health Initiative (COHI) program, CDHA continues to recruit and train dental hygienists for short-term contract work in Nunavut and in remote areas of northern Ontario. Over the past 2 years, children between the ages of 0 and 8 living in 17 remote communities across the territory received essential dental hygiene care from CDHA contractors.

Public Awareness: *Members' value is recognized by the Canadian public.*

CDHA strives to educate Canadians on the work of dental hygienists and the important links between oral and overall health. Through media releases, print and television interviews, special events, a consumer oriented website www.dentalhygienecanada.ca with a Find a Practitioner search engine, and several social media channels, CDHA ensures that dental hygienists are recognized by the public as partners in health promotion and disease prevention. Distribution of 10 feature articles on oral health issues via News Canada, generated 126 stories to an audience of over 4,700,000. Videos played 22,000 times on a major Canadian city digital screen and jumbotron resulting in 7.8 million impressions. We were featured in Oral Health supplements in one national magazine and one national newspaper.

CDHA is very active on social media with almost 15,000 Facebook fans, over 4,200 Twitter followers, an Instagram account, and a YouTube channel with over 175,000 video views.

National Dental Hygienists Week

Thousands of members participated in our April 9-15, 2016 awareness campaign focussing on showing our #dhpurplepride and educating the public. We received congratulatory greetings from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Health Minister Jane Philpott, and had a proclamation read in the House of Commons. Various landmarks across the country including Niagara Falls, the Calgary Tower, BC Place and the Olympic cauldron in Vancouver, and more, were all lit purple in honour of the profession. Members were provided with access to numerous downloadable resources www.cdha.ca/ndhw and held events providing free services to those in need, educated students in schools, shopping

malls and other venues, were interviewed in the media about oral health and much more. 500 event photos have been submitted to our image gallery: http://www.cdha.ca/pyogallery#/?_k=agkbc9. Overall social media reach for the week was an audience of 2.9 million.

New Oral Health Fact Sheets

To support our efforts to educate the public about important oral health issues, CDHA has developed new fact sheets on [Dry Mouth](#), [Medication-Induced Xerostomia](#), [Denture Care](#), [Dental Hygiene for Life](#), [Oral Care for Infants and Young Children](#), [Oral Cancer Fact Sheet](#), [Talking Points for the Oral-Systemic links](#) and more.

National Television Advertising Campaign

CDHA launched a television advertisement during National Dental Hygienists Week this year highlighting the dental hygiene profession and the important role of dental hygienists as primary health care providers. The total viewership was 3 million.

Professional Practice: Members have the resources to work independently and interprofessionally as an integral part of the healthcare team.

Job Market and Employment Survey

CDHA has released our biannual Job Market and Employment Survey Report. This survey gathered data to gauge employment and job market trends for dental hygienists across the Canada. The unemployment rate among respondents is 2.1%, approximately one-third of the current Canadian unemployment rate (7.1% as of December 2015). The average reported hourly rate was \$41.36; 78% of respondents are hourly rate employees; 50% of respondents work more than 30 hours per week; 74% of respondents work for a single employer; 29% of respondents have had a medical issue related to their work as a dental hygienist. The most commonly reported benefits received by respondents are dental care or dental insurance (54%), paid vacation/holidays (51%), uniform allowance (41%), and professional development (41%).

Independent Practice

The Independent Practice Network (IPN) was launched in July 2014 as part of CDHA's ongoing commitment to advance independent practice across the country. The IPN offers several exclusive benefits to Canada's independent dental hygienists, including a nine-digit Unique Identification Number (UIN), access to CDHA-ACHDnet™ for the submission of electronic claims. The network hosts the independent practice online community, and provides priority registration and discounted rates for courses and workshops, and reduced rates for practice management software from Maxident.

CDHA's Dental Hygiene Research Agenda

CDHA just released the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association 2015–2018 Dental Hygiene Research Agenda, which aims to effect change in the following key areas: Access to care issues and unmet oral health needs of individuals, risk assessment and management of health conditions and capacity-building within the dental hygiene profession.

Professional Knowledge: Members create, contribute to and utilize a growing body of professional knowledge and research.

From its flagship publications, the Canadian Journal of Dental Hygiene and Oh Canada! magazine, to its position statements, conferences, workshops, and webinars, CDHA offers a variety of opportunities for members to contribute to and learn from the latest in oral health research and education. Knowledge generation and translation are essential to the universal recognition and understanding of dental hygiene as a primary health care profession.

CDHA offers a variety of professional development opportunities for members including 41 webinars, online courses and in-person workshops on a variety of topics including Interim Stabilization Therapy, Oral Cancer Screening, Independent Practice. CDHA also held a very successful conference in 2015 in Victoria with nearly 500 participants. Our next conference will be October 19-21, 2017. We are excited to be partnering with the National Centre for Dental Hygiene Research and Practice.



Association of Czech Dental Hygienists (ADH ČR)

Czech Republic Country Report 2014 – 2016

Members:

- Number of members up to date 31. 12. **2014** – 167 members
- Number of members up to date 31. 12. **2015** – 189 members
- Number of members up to date 08. 04. **2016** – 208 members (female 203, male 5)

Board:

3 members:

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Michal Kalita, DiS. | President |
| Markéta Harantová, DiS. | Vice - president |
| Mgr. Jitka Kropáčková | Board member |

ADH ČR ACTIVITIES 2014 - 2015

Board

April 2014 – November 2014

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Michal Kalita, DiS. | President |
| Mgr. Markéta Marušanová | Vice - president |
| Markéta Harantová, DiS. | Board member |

ACTIVITIES

- Based on a new established ADH ČR statutes assembly elected a new ADH ČR Board (now 3 board members instead of previous 5 board members)
- 1st independent ADH ČR Conference organization
- Based on a new legal platform in Czech Republic, ADH ČR formally changed a status from Citizens Association to Registered Society
- ADH ČR created a new concept of cooperation with a General Public Insurance Company (VZP)
- ADH ČR executed a disciplinary proceeding and action with an ADH ČR member
- ADH ČR created a Facebook pages
- ADH ČR continued a cooperation with Czech Chamber of Dentist (WOHD 2015 organization in ČR and made plans for next cooperation)

- ADH ČR continued a cooperation with Ministry of Health (continued a new DH law preparation DH competences including, created a draft of an ADH ČR comments to a new DH study program - curriculum in the frame of an implementation of the Health Strategy 2020, ADH ČR created a draft of changes in DH lifelong learning)
- ADH ČR continued collection of supporting opinions for the DH competence to make an Xray-RVG issued by dentists and professional societies
- ADH ČR started a cooperation with the Association of Social Services Provider (ADH ČR supported an issue of brochure with DH information and instructions to educate social services providers)
- ADH ČR concluded a new annual contracts with its partners and sponsors
- ADH ČR continued a cooperation with DH schools (ADH ČR presented itself to DH students, ADH ČR supported a new DH study program realization at the Secondary/College Health School in Karlovy Vary City)
- ADH ČR cooperated with EDHF
- ADH realized PR projects focused on DH profession, oral and general health - specially in the context of WHO 2015 (at Media: TV, magazines, newsletters...)
- ADH ČR organized an Annual Assembly and Conference
- November 2014 a Vice - president Mgr. Markéta Marušánová resigned

EVENTS ORGANIZED BY ADH ČR:

November 27th – 29th 2014 1st independent ADH ČR Professional Conference

- 3 days long professional conference including theoretical lectures and practical workshops (before only annual one day ADH ČR Conference including theoretical lectures only)
- Venue: Educational campus DUK, Kladno City

April 17th – 18th 2015 ADH ČR Assembly and Conference

- Venue: Prague
- New board member election Mgr. Jitka Kropáčková elected
- New auditor election Lenka Velebilová, DiS. elected
- Approved electronic way of the submission of Request for the ADH ČR professional society affirmative attitude issue

New board:

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Michal Kalita, DiS. | President |
| Markéta Harantová, DiS. | Vice - president |
| Mgr. Jitka Kropáčková | Board members |

EVENTS ORGANIZED WITH AN ADH ČR COOPERATION:

May 26th - 27th 2014 Days of The Health

- Organizer: Kardia, s. r. o. Company
- Content: DH education for 52 employees of the Commerce Bank

October 2nd - 3rd 2014 2nd Czech Day of Healthy teeth

- Organizer: Czech Chamber of Dentists
- Venues: Prague, Pilsner, Brno, Ostrava
- Content: Oral health care and its effect on the general health (devoted to a public audience)
- TV appearance of Ex Vice - president Mgr. Markéta Marušánová (ČT24)

March 20th 2015 WOHD

- Organizer: Czech Chamber of Dentists
- Cooperation on an issue of brochure with oral health care instructions for a public (ADH ČR pushed through the placement of DH visit recommendation as the first step of the oral care)
- TV appearance of a new Vice – president Markéta Harantová, DIS. (ČT24)
- ADH ČR devoted 2 vouchers of DH treatment for winners of the quiz in the frame of WOHD.

November 8th – 9th 2015 Prague Dental Days

- Organizer: Czech Chamber of Dentists
- Venue: Prague
- Content: conference for dentists, dental hygienists, nurses (dental assistants) and dental technicians
- ADH ČR cooperation: ADH ČR created a draft of the program and speakers for dental hygienists program section

DH EDUCATION

- ADH ČR negotiated with Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education an implementation of the Health Strategy Project 2020
- ADH ČR negotiated with Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education an opportunity of changes in DH education
- ADH ČR created (based on the members comments) a basic frame of those changes, which will serve as a source material for a new DH curriculum
- ADH ČR created drafts of solutions for “Double tracked” DH education in ČR. (Currently in Czech Republic exists 2 types of DH education with the same duration of education, the same range of study and the same DH competences, but with different degree: DiS. and Bc.)

LIFELONG LEARNING

- In 2014 ADH ČR issued an Affirmative attitude of the professional society to 87 educational events, to 1 educational event was issued disapproving attitude because of un-correlation between the theme of event and field of DH activities in the frame of DH profession.

ADH ČR ACTIVITIES 2015 - 2016

ACTIVITIES:

- ADH ČR meeting with a new board of Society of Parodontology, issue: agreement about cooperation and support
- ADH ČR Meeting with heads and representatives of DH subject from DH schools
- 2nd independent ADH ČR Conference organization
- ADH ČR cooperated with Colgate-Palmolive Company and Czech Chamber of Dentists on the preparation of preventative program for fluoridation support in DH practices
- ADH ČR continued a cooperation with Czech Chamber of Dentist (WOHD 2016 organization in ČR, the 3rd Czech Day of Healthy Teeth event realization and preparation of the 4th Czech Day of Healthy Teeth event, planned next cooperation)

- ADH ČR continued a cooperation with Ministry of Health (continued a new DH law preparation DH competences including, created a draft of an ADH ČR comments to a new DH study program - curriculum)
- ADH ČR continued a cooperation with DH schools (ADH ČR presented itself to DH students)
- ADH ČR created promotional leaflet giving a motivation for DH to become an ADH ČR member
- ADH realized PR projects focused on DH profession, oral and general health - specially in the context of WOHD 2015 (at Media: TV, magazines, newsletters)
- ADH ČR realized with cooperation with Johnson & Johnson Company project for ADH ČR members and public (DM Drugstore customers). (100 winners received a voucher of DH treatment for free)
- ADH ČR issued a declaration to a prepared food regulation, which set down a requirement of food available for advertisement and distribution at schools. ADH ČR supported Wrigley Company.
- Presentation of the President Michal Kalita, DiS. for the Association of Colleges (topic: DH as a brunch of study, issue: agreement about cooperation)

EVENTS ORGANIZED BY ADH ČR:

November 20th – 21st 2015 2nd independent ADH ČR Professional Conference

- Venue: Kladno City
- 2 days professional conference including theoretical lectures and practical workshops

EVENTS ORGANIZED WITH AN ADH ČR COOPERATION:

October 8th 2015 3rd Czech Day of Healthy Teeth

- Organizer: Czech Chamber of Dentists
- Venues: Prague, Brno, Hradec Králové, Olomouc
- Content: Oral health care and its effect on the general health (devoted to a public audience)
- All day program – presentations for public, education and practical home oral care instructions for children and adults (provided by DH - ADH ČR members)
- Appearance of a President Michal Kalita, DiS. (introduction of CDHT, DH and ADH ČR)
- ADH ČR devoted 2 vouchers of DH treatment for free for winners of the quiz

February 2016 Month of fluoridation

- Organizer: Colgate Palmolive Company and Czech Chamber of Dentists
- Content: Preventative program supporting a fluoridation (DH - ADH ČR members, involved in this action, provided patients with fluoridation for free)

March 20th 2016 WOHD

- Organizer: Czech Chamber of Dentists
- Content: cooperation on an issue of a leaflet with oral health care information for public
- ADH ČR devoted 3 vouchers of DH treatment for free for winners of the quiz in the frame of WOHD.

LIFELONG LEARNING

- In 2015 ADH ČR issued an Affirmative attitude of the professional society to 104 educational events.

LEGISLATION

- ADH ČR created comments to an Amendment of a DH law 96/2004 Sb.
- ADH ČR disagreed with a new formulation of the dentist supervision definition (dentist has to be available within 30 minutes in DH office) and suggested to keep current formulation (dentist has to be available to DH help - without the definition of the way)
- ADH ČR suggested to remove a obligatory request of dentist indication for DH preventative care with the argument: there is not need to indicate prevention as there doesn't exists any contraindications for DH preventative care
- ADH ČR (with the correlation of a law suggested thesis and EU suggestions) enforce into a new law a complete remove of dentist supervision above all DH competences (with 2 exceptions:
 - 1) Within 3 years of DH daily practice - after graduation
 - 2) DH with less than 3 years education at University or College)

ADH ČR MAIN GOALS FOR 2016:

- To continue a realization of changes in DH educational program – curriculum and create a new bachelor and magister study program - curriculum for DH
- To extend a DH competences in the connection of the new created DH study program
- To realize preventative projects to improve a public oral health in Czech Republic
- To start up an active cooperation with General Public Health Insurance (VZP) based on a preventative projects and programs
- PR activities to increase a number of ADH ČR members
- To continue a membership in EDHF and IFDH
- Long - term goal: to increase a prestige of DH profession in Czech Republic

Mgr. Hana Kučová, DiS.
ADH ČR Member
IFDH HOD Member Czech Republic

Denmark

Danish Association of Dental Hygienists

2013-2016

Membership: 1600, of which 170 are students.

40 year anniversary

2014 was the anniversary year of the Danish Association of Dental Hygienists, which has existed since 1974. The anniversary was marked on several occasions during the year. The anniversary was for example marked at a three-day conference in May, which included a reception, an exhibition, presentations by professionals in our field and the conference ended with a big party. It was three fantastic day with well over 400 dental hygienists, partners and guests participating, including the presidents of the Nordic hygienist associations.

Educating our members

During the last few years the association has arranged and hosted a large number of courses and events for members. Most of which are recurring events on an annual basis. For example courses in orthodontics, training courses, conferences on issues relating to the profession, training courses for shop stewards and theme days for members with their own clinic. In the fall of 2015, 42 dental hygienists attended the information day on how to set up their own clinic. As a new feature, meetings were held on exchanging experience and knowledge on promotion of health. We have also had courses in dental sealants and infiltration of caries lesions in the permanent dentition. Both courses were great successes.

Scholarships

Each year The Executive Committee of the Danish Association of Dental Hygienists hands out scholarships for members wanting to get a diploma or a master's degree. Each year \$ 15,500 is handed out to support our members. In addition to this we would also like to draw out that in the summer of 2014 25 dental hygienists were involved in a project aiming at identifying future requirements for health professionals. The work was made in cooperation with among others nurses, physiotherapists, midwives and occupational therapists. One of the conclusions pointed to the necessity of reflexive health professionals. Not least because health work in the future will be more complex and involve conflicting interests and forms of knowledge.

The Danish Model – Collective Bargaining

In the spring of 2014 the Danish Association of Dental Hygienists negotiated an increase in the salary of dental hygienists employed in the private sector in the area of adult dental care. The public sector employed dental hygienists secured their real wages in the public negotiations in 2015. In general dental hygienists are moving towards a higher salary step and even the pension was given a boost.

Dental hygienists and dentists with their own clinic negotiated in 2015 a new collective agreement / insurance scheme. The collective agreement match the clinical guidelines from the National Health Board.

Interdisciplinary collaboration

The Danish Association of Dental Hygienists is experiencing an increasing demand for knowledge of dental hygienists from other health professional groups in the form of more invitations to participate in their events, conferences etc. And there is also a demand for our articles and pamphlets with information on issues relating to our profession. We have among other things participated in the diabetes association's interdisciplinary conference and other conferences held by other health professions.

The association is also involved in cooperating on issues like malnutrition, child and adolescent well-being, food and meals for the elderly, smoking cessation and modernization of dental care for elderly. A special focus is on care of the mouth and teeth for elderly citizens.

Raising awareness

The Danish Association of Dental Hygienists has since 2013 participated in "Folkemødet – The People's Political Festival" on Bornholm (Denmark). This is a meeting where you have the opportunity to meet and talk to many of Denmark's key politicians, stakeholders and people from other associations. The overall message of our association in these years is to focus on the need for daily brushing with citizens who do not have the physical strength themselves to uphold the minimum level of teeth and mouth hygiene.

The Association is also working actively every day to influence the media and communicate with members and ordinary citizens who are interested in our field of expertise. Our Facebook page has more than 2,000 followers. In our members web we have around 700 members logging in every month to read the latest information or look for courses etc. In addition to this we have our Association Magazine "Tandplejeren" (The Dental Hygienist) which is published six times each year and we send out themed electronic newsletters several times a month to our members. As a new feature the association also uses Twitter to get messages across to politicians and decision makers.

Country Report from Finland

Finnish Association of Dental Hygienists FADH has a new board that begun its two year term on 1st of January 2016. Mari Heinonen was selected as the new president and Maiju Larkiola as the new vice president. FADH has nominated Piia Kulmala as the HoD member along with Mari Heinonen in the IFDH.

FADH is organizing a two days training in Helsinki for dental hygienists in April (8th - 9th). We already have total of 97 dental hygienist registered for the training. Program will contain lectures about: (All lectures are held in Finnish.)

- “Changes in the oral mucous membrane – factors increasing oral cancer risk and oral cancer” by Tuula Salo, Professor of Oral pathology from University of Oulu;
- “Student guidance at work – how to get best results for both parties” by Satu Korpisaari M.D. and clinical instructor in University of Eastern Finland and Savonia University of Applied Sciences
- “Teamwork in oral health promotion” by Kimmo Suomalainen, Docent, Ph.D. and Erja Nuutinen, RDH, Oral health Lecturer from Metropolia University of Applied Sciences
- “Bite is all wrong – adult orthodontics for dental hygienists” by Tiina Ikävalko Ph.D. University of Eastern Finland
- “I wonder if my patients has a sleep apnea?” and “Apnea splint user as a patient” by Riitta Pahkala Docent, Ph.D. University of Eastern Finland
- “Teeth whitening in 2016 – what is new and proper?” by Reetta Suokas M.D.

In October FADH is organizing one day training for dental hygienists in Jyväskylä, central Finland. The program is yet to be established, but the topics will be about pain, pain relief in patient care, how to encounter a patient with acute pain and laser treatment with patients with pain. The program will be published during the spring.

FADH has its own publication for members in total of four numbers a year. The magazine can be ordered to other parties as well. The content is mainly in scientific articles from the dental field as well as articles about FADH actions around Finland and also ads about dental supply companies.

FADH has a student council that coordinates events for students of dental hygiene in all four campuses in Helsinki, Kuopio, Oulu and Turku. They provide information about FADH and its mission and vision for the students as well as guidance about how to make a good job application or a contract of employment.

In November FADH is taking part in the Finnish Dental Congress and Exhibition (24th to 26th) as an exhibitor. At the exhibition FADH provides information about our profession as a dental hygienist and about our association. Focus is also in meeting our members and partners at the fare. 24th of November FADH is having its annual meeting in Helsinki.

FADH is actively involved in the major planning on the change in Finnish health care and social systems. The plan is to make the social and health care system more effective and easier to access



for the patients. The modification will require a number of changes to the Finnish Law and changes to the municipal and government organization in health- and social care. FADH is actively taking part of the planning to improve dental healthcare systems and taking care of its members' working conditions and terms. FADH is most particularly making sure that dental hygienists should be more involved to the caries preventive care and periodontal diseases.

FADH is attending to the IFDHs Meetings in Lucerne Switzerland and the IFDH Symposium in Basel in June as well as the European Dental Hygienists Federation EDHF meeting 24th of September in Lisbon, Portugal.

More information (in Finnish) www.suuhygienistiliitto.fi.

28th of March, 2016

Mari Heinonen

President

Piia Kulmala

International delegate of FADH

Country Report from Germany

The German Dental Hygienists Association (DDHV) was founded in 1990 by hygienists trained outside of Germany that are all holding RDHs/Diplomas or more in Dental Hygiene. Most of them are born in Germany, but we also have other countries present such as:

- 1 RDH from Australia
- 3 RDHs from Canada
- 1 RDHBS from Canada
- 3 RDHs from Denmark
- 1 RDH from Finland
- 2 RDHs from Holland
- 1 RDHBS from Holland
- 1 RDH from Italy
- 2 RDHs from Japan
- 1 RDH from the Philippines
- 7 Diploma DHs from Switzerland
- 12 RDHs from Switzerland
- 2 RDHs (OH) aus South-Afrika (RSA)
- 1 RDH from Singapore
- 5 RDHs from the USA
- 2 RDHBSs from the USA
- 2 RDHs from Czech Republic

It was an IFDH-membership ultimatum, that all of us are hygienists with Diplomas.

Ever since the first Hygienists returned from a US Hygiene Training in 1974 it was the wish to have a program installed similar to those countries that have a US-Training.

This wish came true on January 23rd 2016 when Prof. Dr. Ulrich Schlagenhauf announced the first full time program to be running in one of Germany's renowned Universities in Würzburg. The program is in the funding endeavor stage.

Other Universities like Witten/Herdecke, Münster, Marburg and most likely Freiburg will follow. They will all be taking place right on the campus of the universities.

The program from Würzburg will run partially with the dental students in the same lectures and in addition has adjusted to a US-program. It will run according to the Bologna Process with 180 ECTS, two full-time semesters of clinical experience with about 100 Patients to be treated, whereas some will have to be heavy perio-patients. The program will include injection.

Unfortunately the German Dental Association announced on March 2nd 2016 again, that they will go against an official profession in Dental Hygiene. Therefore the DDHV has just applied for its own profession, and is sure, that this time we will make it. It is a long ways to go, as the final decision lies within our parliament, the top of political regulations in our country.

In 2002 one hygienist won completely alone a petition towards a Profession in Dental Hygiene in the Parliament already. Unfortunately it got stopped by the Dental Association.

As long as we do not have our own regulate profession, we will not be accepted in other countries, especially not in Europe.

The main problem in our country is that dentists want to be the top in the hierarchy and have not understood, that e.g. in medicine it is up-to-date to have other professions besides the medical doctors. Also the statements from other countries, that dental hygienists diagnose (which is not the

same as gathering patient information e.g. pocket depth etc.), makes to become our own profession in Germany extremely difficult to establish.

Also in German history, the dental technician was able to become a so called "DENTIST" without studying and without becoming a doctorate, was fashion between 1930 and 1945. This German history no one wants to repeat. In other words, they fear to receive again a sort of "Dentists light" thru the Dental Hygienist and their expanded duties.

In our just posted application for a profession, the DDHV will strive two ways: One which will include x-rays, injection, perio-treatment, pits and fissure sealants, bleaching, risk-patients and "orthodontics" only under supervision of a dentist and the recall of our patients without supervision (exactly similar to Switzerland). Our goal does not go for more, as we have plenty of dentists in our country. We also have more and more Perio specialists that we are sure of that they will need the Dental Hygiene Bachelor Students from the named institutions in the future, so employment is secured.

For 27 years the DDHV has yearly up-to-date congresses with continuing education and also we have our own Journal, both with very high standards.

In conclusion: Germany until today does not have a profession, no registration, no licensing in Dental Hygiene. We have no Diplomas and no certification.

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President DDHV
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PS: The DDHV attended so far the following "IFDH"- meetings: Stockholm 1977, Brighton 1981, 1992 Den Hague, 1998 Florence, 2001 Sydney, 2004 Madrid, 2010 Edinburgh and now 2016 in Luzern/Switzerland. If the DDHV has not participated, it was only due to financial reasons.

We are a small, but powerful association that has accomplished a lot in the past and is going full power into the future.

**Report of the Dutch Dental Hygienists' Association
To the House of Delegates
April 2016**

Acknowledgment of professional qualifications dental hygienist - Europe

In 2015, the annual meeting of the European Dental Hygienists Federation (EDHF) adopted unanimously a European professional profile. The next step in this project is the development of a European curriculum for the training of dental hygienists (European Common training framework)

Distribution of healthcare - dental hygienist in Article 3 of the BIG Law

The incorporation of dental hygienist in Article 3 of the BIG Law concerns the possibility to perform the so called restricted procedures (anaesthesia, taking X-rays and treatment of primary caries) without a referral from the dentist, and the application of the disciplinary rules for dental hygienists. After the evaluation of the BIG Law in 2014 and the Board letter from Health Minister Schippers on the BIG Law early 2015, NVM dental hygienists had regular contact on this issue with other parties. In the summer of 2015, the Ministry reported that the request of NVM (from July 2014) should be considered. NVM offered additional information that could help the Ministry's policy department to prepare an advice to the minister. It is expected that this advice will be presented in early 2016.

Position of the dental hygienist - empower identity

In 2014 and 2015, the meetings with the Ministry of Health were dedicated to the oral health policy agenda regarding the topic oral health care for vulnerable elderly. In the recent years, oral health care associations, insurance companies, and patient and consumer organizations considered the organization of oral health care for the vulnerable elderly living at home.

Research

The past 3 years, the Foundation NVM - research and education delivered several (Scientific) abstracts / publications:

2015

- Folgerts, O., van Splunter-Schneider, M. & Buunk-Werkhoven, Y.A.B. Public Health and Association's Membership: desires/duties of Oral Health professionals. International Dental Journal. Special Issue: Abstracts of the 102nd FDI Annual World Dental Congress - September 2014. February 2015, Volume 65, Issue Supplement S1 Pages 1-232. [P286, p 205].
- Buunk-Werkhoven, Y.A.B., Buls, J.G., Osinga, E. & Bruers, J.J.M. (2015). Diagnosis and treatment of halitosis by dental hygienists and dentists in the Netherlands. International Dental Journal, 65: 65-70. DOI 10.1111/idj.12145
- Folgerts, O. & Buunk-Werkhoven, Y.A.B. A NVM-public campaign to promote oral health among a Dutch population. Journal of Clinical Periodontology. Special Issue: Abstracts of EuroPerio8, London, UK, 3-6. Volume 42, Issue S17, June 2015 Pages 443-467 [P0305].

2014

- Buunk-Werkhoven, Y.A.B., Hollaar, V.R.Y. & Jongbloed-Zoet, C. Work engagement among Dutch dental hygienists. Journal of Public Health Dentistry 2014 Feb 26. DOI: 10.1111/jphd.12050

2012

- Jongbloed-Zoet C1, Bol-van den Hil EM, La Rivière-Ilsen J, van der Sanden-Stoelinga MS. Dental hygienists in The Netherlands: the past, present and future. Int J Dent Hyg. 2012 Aug;10(3):148-54. doi: 10.1111/j.1601-5037.2012.00573.x.

During Europerio8 in London, the NVM presented a poster, based on the publication 'A NVM-public campaign to promote oral health among a Dutch population'. The abstract of the study 'Effects of NVM public campaign by dental hygienists: Promoting oral health screening and the periodontal condition' was accepted for an oral presentation at the International Symposium on Dental Hygiene in 2016 in Basel, Switzerland.

Promotional activities

In 2014 and, 2015, The Dutch Dental Hygienists' Association (Nederlandse Vereniging van Mondhygienisten: NVM) celebrated World Oral Health with different campaign activities; 200 oral health care practices opened their doors for the Dutch public and offered free oral health consults/advice during 'The Week of the Dental Hygienist' (Week van de Mondhygienist). Moreover, to promote oral health and - hygiene and 'The Week of the Dental Hygienist' among the Dutch public a commercial was broadcasted on TV. With this commercial NVM reached about 2.5 million people! Find more information about the activities on www.weekvandemondhygienist.nl, www.mondhygienisten.nl, <http://www.worldoralhealthday.org/>

NVM-congresses and themes

- November 13, 2015: Dutch Dental Hygienists' Association (NVM) Fall Conference, *Youth and Oral health care*, Amersfoort, The Netherlands
- November 12, 2015: Dutch Dental Hygienists' Association (NVM) Pre-conference in collaboration with Philips, *Oral-systemic link*, Amersfoort, The Netherlands
- April 18, 2015: Dutch Dental Hygienists' Association (NVM) Spring Conference, *Oral health care and special health care groups*, Arnhem, The Netherlands
- November 14, 2014: Dutch Dental Hygienists' Association (NVM) Fall Conference, *Oral health care and oncology*, Amersfoort, The Netherlands
- April 5, 2014: Dutch Dental Hygienists' Association (NVM) Spring Conference, *Screening and monitoring by dental hygienists*, Den Bosch, The Netherlands
- 9 November, 2013: Dutch Dental Hygienists' Association (NVM) Fall Conference, *The circle of life - from the cradle to the grave: a survey of oral health care for patients provided by the dental hygienist at different stages of life*, The Hague, The Netherlands
- April 12, 2013: Dutch Dental Hygienists' Association (NVM) Spring Conference, *Inflammations and oral health care*, Amersfoort, The Netherlands

Irish Dental Hygienists Association Report 2015-2016.

On a national level we had had several meetings with our regulatory body The Dental Council, The Chief Dental Officer and The Department of Health Minister Leo Varadkar to discuss the planned changes to the laws that govern dental hygiene practices and training in the Republic of Ireland. One positive change will be independent practice and direct access. There were planned changes to deregister Dental hygienists – thankfully due to the efforts of the IDHA and our good working relationship with other professional dental bodies we have turned this around and Dental hygienists will stay regulated and registered.

September 2015 saw us host the annual European Dental Hygienists Federation meeting in Dublin, which saw the introduction of a common training framework – this is a professional profile to help gain European standardisation of dental hygiene training and education. The IDHA's Eimear Mithen is now the Secretary of the EDHF.

World Oral Health Day – the IDHA participated by giving oral health and hygiene advice to the public in Dublin and Cork which was very well received, we plan to expand on this in 2017.

The IDHA attended the first Networking Association Forum in February 2016 to promote the IDHA amongst other professional organisations and share intellectual and strategic information.

Launch of the new IDHA Website www.idha.ie which includes features for the public to 'Find a Dental Hygienist'. Also our new Twitter handle is @IrishDentHyg, come follow us!

The IDHA annual scientific conference will be held in Co Cork in October 2016 see www.idha.ie for details.

The IDHA have once again decided to bid to host the ISDH conference, this time for 2021. Our theme will be The Future in Our Hands and will be held in Dublin. We look forward to seeing you all there!

2014/15

Committee Activities

Six committee meetings held

2 conferences April 2014 & November 2014

Sept '14- Barbara Derham & Catherine Waldron attend the European DHF meeting Amsterdam

Sept 19th IDHA host a stand at IDENTEX (National Dental trade show)

November 21st Liverpool, BSDHT conference attended by IDHA

2nd Feb – IDHA meets with Dental Council

2nd Feb - Joint IDHA & IDNA lecture at DDU

31st March - Minister Kathleen Lynch, Junior Minister for Health meets with committee members

April- IDHA host a stand at the Irish Dental Association conference in Cork

IDHA offer an employment service to members

2 x Journals published

Kin Dental hygienist of the year awarded at Annual conference

2013/14

Committee Activities

7 committee meetings held

2 conferences April 2013 & November 2013

April 5th – Minister Alex White, Jnr Minister for Health

April 18th-20th April- IDHA host a stand at the Irish Dental Association (IDA) conference in Galway

May 9th – Donegal Regional Meeting with Pamex

May 11th - Meeting with IDA

June 7th – Aldi Meeting

June 24th – Trinity Dental Hygiene Graduation

July 3rd – Queens College Belfast graduation

July 12th – Meeting with Dental Council

July 26th – Dental Act Submission

August 12th - 17th International Symposium on Dental Hygiene, South Africa

September 4th - Dental Protection Advisory Board Meeting

September 12th - Oral Health Promotion Research Group conference

September 14th - EFDH meeting, Madrid

September 18th - Mouth Cancer Awareness Day, Dental Hospital, University College Cork

September 21st - Autumn Meeting BSDHT, Belfast

September 27th-28th - Identex trade show, Dublin

October 3rd - Meeting with Dr Dympna Kavanagh, Chief Dental Officer, Dept of Health, Dublin

November 2nd - IDHA Winter Scientific Conference, Athlone

November 15th - BSDHT annual conference, Birmingham

November 21st - National Oral Health Forum, Dublin Dental Hospital

February 6th 2014 - Evening lecture in association with IDNA and Pamex Ltd, Dublin Dental Hospital

March 24th 2014 – Meeting with Department of Health, update on New Dental Act

March 27th 2014 – Meeting with J&J advisory board

Main points of Interest 2013/ 16

Submission on the new Dental Act on behalf of the IDHA to achieve Independent Practice

Consulted with Revenue and Solicitors re the change of Dental Hygienists from self-employed to employee status

Annual Meetings with Minister for Health and/ or Junior Minister for Health and Chief Dental Officer

EDHF meeting hosted by Ireland September 2015

2 x IDHA journals published annually,

Kin Dental hygienist of the Year Awarded for 2014 & 2015

Bid for ISDH 2021 submitted May 2016 submitted May 2016

The Israeli Dental Hygiene Association (IDHA) Summary **of Activities and Achievements**

National Fluoridation

The IDHA, as a member of a coalition to reinstate fluoridation of the country's water supply, was pleased that the earlier decision, by former Minister of Health Dr. German, to discontinue water fluoridation in Israel has been overturned by the present Minister of Health, Rabbi Litzman, and water in the country will once again be fluoridated.

Degree program in Dental Hygiene

After many years of great effort to push forward for the development of an academic degree program in dental hygiene we hope to soon see the light at the end of the tunnel with such a program being approved in the near future. There now exist several Colleges that recognize and give credit to dental hygiene graduates and allow them to continue with their studies toward a BA degree in Public Health and Public Health Administration. We look forward to the creation of a BA in Dental Hygiene in the near future. As a member of the planning committee, the IDHA is active in the planning stages of a combined degree program in Dental Hygiene and Public Health.

Cooperation and collaboration with Dental Associations

The IDHA has been invited to be an active partner in association with various dental societies and associations in planning joint conferences and deliberations on different issues concerning the dental field in the country. This past February marked the first collaboration between the Israeli Society of Periodontology and Osseointegration (ISPO) and the IDHA. At the ISPO annual two day conference included a special sessions for dental hygienists and included lectures by two of our own.

We were also invited by Dr. Fakhri Hassan of the Arab Dental Assoc. to meet at his offices to discuss future collaboration. A small group representing the IDHA as well as hygienists from the Arab sector had a very interesting and fruitful meeting and we look forward to moving ahead in joint ventures in the near future. Among the ideas discussed were ways to enhance the ability of the Arab dental hygienists and equip them better to deal with the needs of their sector. The programs will be open to all Israeli dental hygienists interested in attending.

This is also the first year the IDHA is taking an active part in the committee organizing the second International Conference of Dental Public Health to take place in Nazereth in 2017.

We feel that at long last the dental hygiene profession is being viewed and accepted as a full partner in the dental health profession in Israel. Perhaps in the future half the attendees in conferences organized by the IDHA will be comprised of dentists.

New Products

The members of the board of the IDHA recently met with a new and upcoming pharmaceutical company developing very interesting and innovative dental products who acknowledged the importance of dental hygienists in the professional advancement of dental health, and who wished to discuss our view of their new product line. The meeting took place in their laboratories and was most interesting and informative.

Early Childhood education

The IDHA is very active in making an effort to lower the age of oral health education to include nursery children ages 2.5-4.5 . We strongly believe that the earlier we begin oral health education the greater the success for better oral health. Today formal oral health education begins in preschool.

Community Services

Over the years the IDHA has been involved in various community services projects to benefit different sectors in improving their oral health. The more recent projects being pursued are a continuation of oral health education at the Shaarei Tzedek Hospital (Jerusalem) pediatric nephrology department and dialysis unit, education of both women and children in Women's Shelters across the country, as well as a program in prevention among refugees in southern Tel Aviv.

Conferences

In early March we celebrated **International Women's Day** (along with dentists and dental assistants) with an afternoon/evening of good food incredible lectures. The topics, naturally, stressed women's health issues, including xerostomia, diseases of the thyroid gland, migraines, headaches, facial pain, sleep disorders, and uses of hyaluronic. The cherry atop the cream was a talk given by a popular and dynamic speaker on "life, weight and all in between".

Last but not least we are finalizing the details of our upcoming **Annual Dental Hygiene Assoc. conference** at the end of May, our biggest conference of the year with a popular and well known comedian to entertain us at the end of a day full of academic and professional lectures. We are also busy making plans to attend the

International Dental Hygiene Conference in Basel in June. Thus far we have a delegation of over 40 hygienists registered for the ISDH! We look forward to meeting our peers from the world over, gaining insights, and exchanging ideas.

We are very proud of our hygienists Sonia Chorubczyk, Yael Carlin, and Mona Khaskia, who will be presenting the work they are involved in at the Rambam Hospital in Haifa where an innovative program named "Proyect Hazahav".

Proyec Hazahav

Rambam Hospital in Haifa, in the northern part of Israel, has initiated a project named Proyect Hazav .In Hebrew the acronym for the word gold, Zahav, stands for "support for the elderly hospitalized patient project". It was organized by the geriatric, social services and volunteer departments of the hospital.

In Israel, 10% of the population is over the age of sixty five, with a slight increase in the number of people over eighty ("old-old"). Among the population considered "old-old" and "frail" the incidence of hospitalization increases as does the need for greater family and social support in order to sustain this population in the general community setting.

Rambam Hospital has adopted the HELP (1) program developed at Yale University.

The goals of the program are:

- to advance awareness of the staff to the specific individual needs of the patient
- to prepare a data base of specific volunteers
- to preserve and maintain the patients' functional status
- to aide in the formation of a continuous sequence of treatment in the interim between hospitalization and returning to the community
- to build a communication network among all those responsible in the patients' care to ensure minimization of future hospitalization
- to provide dispatch information to the patients and their family

Sonia Chorubczyk, a member of the Board of Directors of the Israeli Dental Hygiene Assoc., along with the aide of other members of the association, spearheaded the involvement of hygienists in this important project. It was not difficult to convince all the forces involved of the importance of dental health and dental health education for this program to succeed. At the onset serious oral health problems were brought to the attention of the attending physicians and enhanced the care given the patients in question. We are very proud of the hygienists involved in this voluntary project. It is another example of how Muslim, Christian and Jewish professionals join hands in one common cause.

(1) Inouye S.K., Bogardus S.T., Baker D.I., Leo-Summer L., and Cooney L.M. (2000). The Hospital Elder Life Program: A model of care to prevent cognition and functional decline in older hospitalized patients. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 48(12); 1697-1706

Italy

2016 Country Report

In Italy the Dental Hygiene profession was officially recognized for the very first time in 1978 and a dedicated 2 years course represented the basic curricula for the first DHs.

A.I.D.I. the Italian Dental Hygienists Association was founded just few years later in 1981, as the first and unique DH Association.

Since the beginning the aims of the AIDI Association were supporting and developing the DH profession through a constant updating and good practice, promoting international relationships and pursuing the inclusion of the Dental Hygienists in the social environment and of course in the welfare system of our country.

In Canada in 1989 during the II International Symposium of the I.F.D.H (International Federation of Dental Hygienists), A.I.D.I. was unanimously accepted as the unique representative Association for the Italian country. From that moment AIDI became a new member of the IFDH. As a member of I.F.D.H., AIDI assumed the responsibility of representing the Italians Dental Hygienists within the world according to the international goals and objectives of the Federation.

Since 1989, AIDI was the only member representing Italy within the International Federation of Dental Hygienists, It always assured support and it played an active role. A.I.D.I. thanks to its Delegate is now serving the Federation as Treasury.

In 1998 the International Symposium of IFDH was organized by A.I.D.I. and hosted in Italy, Florence.

A.I.D.I. was also one of the founding members of the European Dental Hygienists Federation, created in 1999. During the past period A.I.D.I. as a sole representative for Italian DH took the responsibility of the Presidency, Treasury and Secretariat for two terms.

In 2004 A.I.D.I. became member of the Permanent Observatory of the MIUR (Italian Minister of the University and the Research) representing the Dental Hygienists; in the same year A.I.D.I. also was included in: the ECM (Continuing Education System for Medicine disciplines) National Committee, the Permanent Conference for the DH Degree representing the profession, and the Italian Council of the Health Professions.

On the 19th of December 2008 the National Coordination of all the Health Professions Associations (representing the 22 different health professions), the so called Co.N.A.P.S. was established and since it's constitutive Assembly data, AIDI was part of the Co.N.A.P.S.

The main purpose of the Co.N.A.P.S. is to establish specific technical meetings within the Health Professions Associations, promoting exchanges, identifying topics of common interest, goals and objectives and setting priorities concerning relevant matters at national Level such as: National Registers (ALBI), social and welfare policies , education , emergency topics related to Special Political contexts. In August 2015 the 22 Professional Associations obtained to have the Co.N.A.P.S. recognized as an official Juridical subject.

In 2012 Aidi has been recognized by the Ministry of Health as the most representative Dental Hygienists Association at National level (Ministry of Health decree 30.07.2013). A.I.D.I. was the first Association that completely accomplished the Ministry of Health requirements. Since that date A.I.D.I. became the official representative.

In Italy according to the MURST (Ministry of University and Scientific and Technological Research) decrees, the DH university curricula is based on basic and compulsory 3 years course and a subsequent circle of studies. The different courses release defined and specific academic titles:

- Degree (L - based on 3 years course)
- Master Degree (LM - based in 2 years course)
- Postgraduate Diploma (DS)
- Research Doctorate (DR)

A.I.D.I. contributes with countless actions in the Hygiene and Health Commission to the creation and approval of the law (July 2002) establishing the degree 3 + 2 and the management for all health professions.

Aidi has collaborated with the most important institutions and organizations of the dental industry and it's the main supporter of the full recognition of the professional dental hygienists, claiming the right to open a private Dental Hygiene practice.

In 2012 a new A.I.D.I. project the so called UniversitAIDI has been established; this program is totally dedicated to DH students. Since the beginning the main goal of UniversitAIDI was supporting the student along with their study period and providing them help and support also immediately after their graduation.

A.I.D.I. is also involved in voluntary works. Thanks to its members A.I.D.I. is always providing voluntary support in different fields and for a vast series of activities that vary from dental education and prevention events in squares, pharmacies, primary schools, prisons, therapeutic/rehab communities, nursing homes and others.

Every year during the month of March A.I.D.I. In partnership with the IFDH and EDHF, organizes events in order to promote oral health in major Italian cities as part of the action plan dedicated to the population in a national level.

According to the data from the 31st of December 2015, the Italian Dental Hygienists are 7350 men/woman distribution: 80% women and 20% men; professions/population rate: 1/8000, certainly the current number of DH are not enough to dealing with the real needs of the population in Italy .

Currently the active Degree courses are 32 for 450 new DH professions every year.

Concerning the level of employment: 87% of Dental Hygienists find a job within the first year after graduation. The 98% of the DH are employed in the private sector (private dental offices), both as a freelance collaboration or full time/part time employment regulated by the National collective employment agreement.

Japan - Country Report

April 1, 2016

[Background and Purpose of Activities]

In recent years in Japan, the disease structure has changed amid the rapid progress of the super-aged society, such as correspondence to the medically compromised patients and the homebound elderly. It has been required to demonstrate the expertise of the dental hygienists who cooperate with the multidisciplinary in the rapidly changing environment surrounding the Japanese dental hygienists.

Therefore, the Japan Dental Hygienists' Association, as the organization approved for public interest, cited the following items on the priority issues this year.

- To evaluate continuing educational programs in response to changes in social needs.
- To enhance the training program for certified dental hygienists
- To promote academic research
- To cultivate of the disaster assistance dental hygienists

[Project Proposal]

1. Continuing educational programs

(1) Basic Training Program

Basic training programs are planned, managed and promoted by Prefectural Dental Hygienist Associations. According to the changes in the needs of oral health care, the programs are evaluated as needed.

The following courses are added and reinforced:

- Pre- and Postoperative Oral Care: especially for cancer patients
- Basic of Homebound Oral Care
- Basic Knowledge of Dysphagia
- Medical Safety Management Measures

(2) Training for certification

Following three existing certificated-training programs are continued.

- Lifestyle-related Diseases Prevention
- Swallowing Rehabilitation
- Home Care Guidance and Oral Function Management; holding several areas across the country, aiming to promote 1000 specialists of oral function management in three years

Furthermore, "Prevention Guidance for Diabetes Mellitus "and "Medical and Dental Collaboration for medically compromised patients and Oral Function Management for having difficulty of swallowing" have started at the four-year dental hygienist educational institutions.

2. Project on the promotion of academic research by dental hygienists

(1) Hold the Annual Academic Meeting of Japan Society of Dental Hygiene (JSDH)

The JSDH was founded 10 years ago. The number of participants and presentations is increasing every year. It has held workshops for several subjects at the same time

(2) The publication of Journal of JSDH

The ethical review committee has established within the JSDH supports to enable the members to submit papers.

3. Support of dental hygiene activities of the region; training of a disaster assistance dental hygienist

Japan is an earthquake-prone region. On March 11, 2011, approximately 18,000 people were killed due to the Great East Japan Earthquake, or lost their homes due to the tsunami. Even now, approximately 60,000 people live in temporary housing.

In addition, many people who have been forced to evacuate their homes have not returned due to nuclear contamination.

(1) Publication of the disaster management operation manual

(2) Hold the disaster relief forum annually

(3) Develop a network system to support recovery from disaster

[Reference]

- The number of employed dental hygienists; 116,299, 90.5% of them works at the dental clinic (2014)
- The dental hygienist school: 9 four-year program and 151 three-year program (2016)
- The number of Dentists: 103,972 (2014)
- The Japanese population: 127,083,000 people (2015)

Korean Country Report 2016

2016 Main Activities of Korean Dental Hygienist Association

Korean Dental Hygienist Association (KDHA) has performed a lot of social responsibility programs for over 50 years.

During the past 10 years, KDHA has focused on enhancing oral health for isolated social groups such as seniors, military officers, and the disabled.

On March 3rd 2016, KDHA conducted oral health care events for seniors which was collaborated with the elder's college. The members of KDHA provided the seniors with fluoride application to dentures management skills. It was successfully held in the Dental Hygiene Building with 50 seniors.

Furthermore, KDHA is also planning to gradually expand this project to children and pregnant women in 2016.



In addition, KDHA has been reinforcing military officer's oral health. For many years, KDHA has offered the effective tools to help maintain their own teeth clean. The latest event was held on 17 Feb 2016, at the capital defense command office with over 200 military officers.

All these activities above lead to raise public awareness to importance of oral health and prevent latent disease. KDHA will enlarge social contribution significantly in the near future.



IFDH Delegate Report for NZDHA

New Zealand

Here is the first page of the report for the IFDH conference in Lucerne HOD The second page will be written by our second delegate Adele Leadley many thanks Cynthia

IFDH report from New Zealand from Cynthia Wallbridge

This past 3 years has been very busy with Family Teeth Matters programme in New Zealand. Last year, Family Teeth Matters programme became a Charitable Trust, which was a big milestone for this volunteer work.

We have been taking this free dental education programme to schools and preschools in Glen Innes, Auckland, New Zealand with new presentations each year. We have presented to 1617 children, parents and teachers. We are getting great feedback from school and preschools where it has been presented. We are also monitoring our statistics from Auckland Regional Dental Services with improving attendances to the Dental Therapists after the presentations.

This year, we want to expand the programme into south Auckland which has huge dental needs among the children and adults. We would like to present to 1720 children parents and teachers this coming year. We are endeavoring to get sponsorship and help from businesses, corporations, and the government. We have also approached the media: TV, national newspapers and local newspapers to help us get some public recognition so it makes our work a lot easier with getting the programme underway nationally.

I was so happy to win an award this year for the programme from Global Children's Dental Fund and the IFDH under the title 'Strategic Intervention for Disadvantaged Children in New Zealand'. The key words being used in IFDH at the moment is our social responsibility as Dental Hygienists which we in New Zealand hope to gather momentum on.

The other activity I was involved with last year was to help dentally as a volunteer in Samoa. It is sad to see the effects that sugar have had on the population and the poverty of some of the villages. Our dental team was able to carry out extractions, scale and polish, and of course execute the Family Teeth Matters programme in schools. Around 350 children, parents and adults and school teachers were helped. I was able to train up one schoolteachers with the Family Teeth Matters programme and leave her with the materials as she was keen to take it to other schools.

The business coming up in NZDHA association is the talks between the NZDHA and NZDOHTA to "merge" the two associations sometime in the future. This has been mooted primarily to cater for the Dual trained BOH & BOHsc students graduating from Otago and Auckland for several years now. At this stage, all that is happening is finding common ground at discussion level with the NZDOHTA when the two organizations meet together soon. Nothing is set in concrete yet. NZDHA wonders how IFDH feel about this merger should it take place. At present, those working as Hygienists who are already Dual Trained, choose between joining one or the other associations to belong to, and have the benefit of attending Conferences and CPD events of the other Association at member rates.



Norway Country Report 2016

Oslo, 20th of April 2016

The Norwegian Dental Hygiene Association, NTpF, main focus the last years has been to develop the DH main field to strengthen the profession. NTpF emphasized the need of research on the field of dental hygiene. NTpF has in cooperation with the university establish a part time study in dental hygiene. The first 25 DH-students started in January 2016 a 2 years part-time study credit 60 credits. The students are able to prolong further 120 credits to a master. The next step is a PhD. The study demonstrate the need of carry out health promotion based on the resources of the patient and not the illness, critical analyze published reports, evidence based practice and research.

NTpF emphasize the importance of skilled DH. Yearly the association arrange academic conference for 2 days with about 250 participants. The local associations arrange local conferences. The magazine is produced 6 times a year with different disciplines as item.

The question about marketing the profession is a recurrent challenge. The NTpF responds on public hearings from the government. The NTpF met the Ministry of Health Care Services in fields of public health and health promotion, and in the question of healthcare professions and the need. It is important to keep in touch with the politicians on a national level. The NTpF has continual meeting with the National Board of Health an Welfare

The NTpF has worked hard to established a new web site. The site will be opened on the academic conference in May.

The board of the NTpF has a 2 days board meeting 4 times a year.

The Norwegian Dental Hygienist Association

Hilde Aga
president

Tilsluttet Delta – en arbeidstakerorganisasjon i YS

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COUNTRY REPORT

Association of dental hygienist in the Slovak republic ADHS

Date 17th April 2016 in Slovakia

Since January 2016 Association of Dental hygienist in the Slovak Republic (ADHS) got a new committee led by new president, Mrs Anna Sloviakova. Anna brings to this position her comprehensive leadership experience, deep knowledge of the work as a dental hygienist, and a forward-looking perspective for the Association.

ADHS has several new projects running this Year, such as major cooperation with the League of Rheumatology of Slovakia and Association of Medical nurses & midwives of Slovakia in effort to educate medical staff in providing better care for patients receiving treatment. Project Generation without tooth decay.

Number of committee meetings held since January: 4

Number of members of new committee: 5

Frequent update on our facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/Asoci%C3%A1cia-dent%C3%A1lnych-hygieni%C4%8Diiek-v-Slovenskej-republike-390091491053020/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel

Frequent update ADHS webpage: <http://www.adhs.sk/fotoalbum.html>

ADHS Activities:

Cooperation with League of Rheumatology of Slovakia

In Piestany, Slovakia is one of the biggest and most well know Rheumatology hospital in the Slovakia. This place we have chosen for your event. ADHS have organized one full day education course for medical nurses working at this specialized hospital, treating patients with several systemic autoimmune health diseases, lupus, osteoporosis,... . Patients treated in the hospital are suffering with several side effects after treatment receiving - mouth ulcers, dry mouth, leukoplakia, oral thrush. Our aim is to train nurses how to advise this type with of patients and guide them where to seek for help. We would like to repeat this event 2 more times this year. Pictures can be found here:

<http://www.adhs.sk/fotoalbum/36/nurch-piestany-vzdelavacia-akcia.html>

Medical nurses & midwives of Slovakia

Medical and dental nurses in Slovakia held their own conferences. Members of ADHS along with president Anna Sloviakova attended 3 medical conferences with prepared presentation promoting oral health and dental hygiene. We had a huge success.

Cooperation with project "Healthy teeth"

This project is organized by DM (<http://www.veselezubky.sk/>) and is aimed for preschoolers. Very popular and well medialized project in Slovakia. Some pictures of our cooperation can be found here: <http://www.adhs.sk/fotoalbum/37/vesele-zubky-trnava.html>
<http://www.adhs.sk/fotoalbum/38/vesele-zubky-banska-bystrica.html>

ADHS Project

On 20th March we announced our project "Generation without tooth decay" this project contains modules :

1. Pregnancy and oral health

Aimed for future mothers, how to look after teeth during pregnancy. Impact of oral health on overall health during pregnancy.

2. First teeth

For children up to 6 years old. Introduction of oral health to children.

3. First molar

For children age 6 and above. Fissure sealing, better technique for cleaning teeth, diet impact on oral health.

4. Be well educated

In this module, we would like to include all healthcare professionals, as well as educated medical staff can guide and protect patients

We have started with 1st module. We have send materials and educational guidelines for future mothers made by ADHS to all 160 registered dental hygienist. We would like them to visit educational services for pregnant females, gynecology ambulances and educate them.

Photogalery:

<http://www.adhs.sk/fotoalbum/42/generacia-bez-kazu-1-modul-nase-uspechy.html>

Preparation of Days of dental hygiene 2016

Yearly 3 day conference prepared by ADHS for more informations visit: (see english attachment) <http://www.adhs.sk/novinky-a-akcie/66/dni-dentalnej-hygieny-2016.htm>

Natalia drgova

Vice President of ADHS

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2016-04-17

Country report: Swedish Dental Hygienists Association (STHF)

Total members March 2016: 3703

Active, full paying members: 2825

Independent practitioners: 173

Student members, passive and retired members

Unemployed: 26

DH-programs: 7 - examine 200/year, 120-180 Ect, Bachelor degree.

Dental Hygienists with PhD: 33

Swedish Dental Hygienist Association, STHF –

Organization:

7 board members, 24 local chapters

Scientific council, Ethical council, Marketing council.

DH- Network – Leadership, Hospital employed, Community Oral health, Independent practitioners, Elderly care. Research educated

Congress: 2014 (every three years)

Annual conference: TandhygienistDagarna (Dental Hygienist Days)

Operation conference: 2015 (every three years)

Participation in external fairs: Approx. 6 every year

Scholarships: 1 member- and 7 student-scholarships

Journal: TandhygienistTidningen, 6 issues/year

Communication with members and public: Website, www.tandhygienistforening.se,

Facebook, blog, responsive website for pads and smartphones.

International collaboration – IFDH and EDHF, International Directors: Birgitta Jönsson and Yvonne Nyblom

Association activates

- STHF has issued an opinion on 20 referrals from agencies and government.
- STHF has had representation in approximately 50 working groups, studies, boards, hearings, workshops, investigations and conferences with the government, agencies, boards, and employers, both national and international.
- STHF regularly meet with people from the national authorities, the dental community, educators, researchers, employers and other health care professionals
- STHF have arranged member activities and courses such as network meetings, student activities, symposium at the annual Dental faire and courses regarding union activities, negotiation technique, treasure duties and leadership
- STHF have performed a number of member recruiting activities at the universities with DH-programmes, labour market activities, local chapters and student fairs.
- STHF annually arrange the Oral Health Day in September together with the Dentists and the Dental assistant associations.
- STHF have participated in the European Dental Hygienist Federation, EDHF, activities regarding strengthen the DH profession in Europe by developing a common education framework and lobbying activities towards stakeholders in EU-commissions and Oral health professionals organizations.
- STHF have participated in EDHFs involvement in two Erasmus+ projects: Com4you and EuHyDens.

STHF key activity: A project group with the purpose to develop systematic continuing education leading to formal specialisation in certain areas within the dental hygienist profession.

Submitted by Yvonne Nyblom, president STHF



Questions concerning the content of the country report can be mailed to:
yvonne.nyblom@tandhygienistforening.se



NAME OF ASSOCIATION:

Swiss Dental Hygienists

NUMBER OF MEMBERS:

2085

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS/TRAINING INSTITUTIONS:

4 Schools/Training Institutions for Dental Hygiene in Zurich (2), Bern and Geneva.
About 80 graduated Dental Hygienists per year.

SIGNIFICANT ASSOCIATION ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2015

- Annual congress with more than 1000 participants (60 % of our members) and 58 exhibitors
- Several PR activities with sponsoring partners: 4 exhibitions, 1 medical congress, 1 congress for graduated nurses
- Successful campaign "Oral Health in Switzerland 2015" in cooperation with elmex research and the Swiss Dental Association
- Development of a Flyer for children about brushing milk teeth ("Mach mit: 2x täglich Zähneputzen"), in cooperation with Signal, FDI and Swiss Dental Hygienists.
- Design and development of a brochure "Sterilization" corresponding to Swiss Medic guidelines
- Several interviews on radio stations and in newspapers about different objects in dental hygiene.
- 14 continuing education courses for our members
- Successful symposium for independent dental hygienists
- Participation on a round table for developing a Swiss-wide concept of oral health and dental care for elderly people dependent on care
- Networking with different associations within health care.
- Education for nurses in oral hygiene: 54 courses with 1100 participants
- Implementation of the new marketing and education concept

KEY ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES FOR 2016-17

- ISDH 2016
- The annual congress will be again a success in terms of participation, content, finances and participants satisfaction
- Creating a post-graduation exam with diploma
- Education for nurses in oral hygiene
- Several PR-activities with our sponsors and partners
- Several continuing education courses for our members

DATE OF NEXT NATIONAL ASSOCIATION MEETING:

Date of ISDH symposium: 23.-25. June 2016

Date of symposium: March 31th, 2017

Date of the annual congress: November 9th – 10th, 2017 in Geneva

LINK TO WEBSITE

www.dentalhygienists.ch

REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Jacqueline Boss, Delegate

UK report from The British Society of Dental Hygiene and Therapy

Chief Professional Officers' Scoping Project: Medicines Supply, Administration and Prescribing Mechanisms

We have been actively moving forward on prescribing responsibilities for our profession.

There are various mechanisms in place for this.

Supply & Administration of medicines

- Patient Specific Directions (PSD)
- Patient Group Directions (PGD)
- Exemptions

Prescribing of medicines

- Supplementary Prescribing
- Independent Prescribing

After much discussion it looks like we may apply for exemptions and not independent prescribing. It was explained that if we were to be successful with Independent Prescribing that we would not have the same powers that Doctors and Dentists do, as no Allied Healthcare Professional does. If we applied for Independent Prescribing, we would not be able to prescribe LA and then use it on the patient, as a dentist does. Independent Prescribing means that the patient would have to take the prescription we have written to be completed by a pharmacist and then return with the LA for us to use. Obviously this is not what we need or require and would prevent us from administering local anaesthesia and also fluoride at the time of the patient's appointment.

We then discussed the option of Exemptions. Exemptions would mean that our profession would be exempt from needing a prescription for certain Prescription Only Medicines (POMs). So we could use (after certain training) LA and fluoride in our daily practice without a PSD or PGD prescription. This training could eventually be encompassed in the undergraduate training. We are still investigating a few areas around independent practice, buying in POMs with exemptions.

Funding for Students

The bursary has been taken away from nurses and from our students from September 2017. Bursaries are given by the government to assist training of NHS courses. Schools that are not affiliated with a university may have problems with this as their students would not be able to apply for a student loan. This will have an impact on the numbers being trained unless a suitable replacement is found.

Workforce review

We have been working with various different departments of health over the 4 countries in the UK to review the demands for our profession in the future. We have attended workforce review meetings in NI and England.

TV

BSDHT have been working with GSK to have one of our members recommend a dental product on TV. After a trawl of our members via the regional group meetings they were successful. We now, for the

first time, have a national TV ad of a hygienist recommending Sensodyne, and the tag line member of BSDHT. This has direct links to our public awareness strategy.

First Smiles

Last year was our first year of First Smiles. We had over 2500 children given free toothbrushes and free advice from our volunteer members. This year it is being held on Friday 17th June and we hope to increase on numbers. This has been kindly supported by Oral B.

The Elderly and Educational Panel

BSDHT have been active in addressing our members concerns relating to care of the dentate elderly, especially in residential care. We have nearly completed an educational package for careers, training them to give OH. This will be available on our website for download. The Educational Panel has been brought together to work on areas of educational need for our members and the society.

World Oral Health Day

On the 20th March 2016, BSDHT in conjunction with Wrigley Oral Healthcare Programme will launch our “HOOKED ON ORAL HYGIENE” homecare aid. This idea was a winning entry from Michelle Coles which helps patients ‘hang-on’ to oral hygiene advice even after they leave the clinic. The design helps take home messages to be reinforced. The tool can be hooked somewhere visible, like a bathroom door, allowing patients to keep their oral hygiene advice close to hand and helping them to regularly recall this information to maintain good habits between check-ups”.

Oral Health Conference

Booking has now opened for the BSDHT flagship conference in Belfast 18th and 19th November 2016. The prices have stayed the same as in 2014 and it promises to be a very different event to engage all of the dental team. www.bsdht.org.uk

Website

BSDHT have a new website, new app and new database system all integrated and launched this year. This has a ‘find a member near you’ facility which will allow for advertising practice details on the website.

Staff

Since we met last we have moved premises and outsourced our Admin, accounts and PR. We have also employed another 3 members of staff.

Michelle Childs –will be our new admin manager, her contact is michelle@bsdht.org.uk

Fay Higgin – Fay will take on the sales and advertising role. She can be contacted on sales@bsdht.org.uk

Lucy Williams – Lucy is taking on the Regional Group Coordinator role and can be contacted on rgc@bsdht.org.uk

March 2016

The American Dental Hygienists' Association
Report to the International Federation of Dental Hygienists
Tammi O. Byrd and Carol Jahn, United States' Delegates
April 2016

The 2013-14 year was a transformational year for the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA). ADHA, The Santa Fe Group, and the ADHA Institute for Oral Health hosted the ***Transforming Dental Hygiene Education Symposium***. Over 100 oral health stakeholders convened to discuss the future direction of the dental hygiene profession. It was the organization's first opportunity to collaborate with a diverse group of funding entities and national oral health stakeholders that included the United States Department of Health and Human Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Dentaguest Foundation, American Dental Education Association (ADEA), Gies Foundation, Washington Dental Foundation, Institute for Oral Health -- Washington, Henry Schein Cares Foundation, Colgate, DENTSPLY professional, Premier Dental, Proctor and Gamble Oral Health, Patterson Dental, and Sunstar Americas. The common recurring themes of the symposium were collaboration, interprofessional education and the demand for a workforce as diverse as the communities that need dental hygiene services and the infrastructure to support change.

ADHA was awarded a contract by HRSA for the development of symposium proceedings and a subsequent white paper on the future of dental hygiene education. The symposium proceedings document, "*Transforming Dental Hygiene Education Proud Past, Unlimited Future*" was posted to the HRSA website May 6, 2014:

<http://www.hrsa.gov/publichealth/clinical/oralhealth/transformingdentalhygiene.pdf> and linked from <http://www.hrsa.gov/publichealth/clinical/oralhealth/>

The symposium impacted ADHA's core ideology, vision, direction and infrastructure. As a result, the finance committee became a committee of the Board of Trustees and the core ideology now focuses on "leading the transformation of the dental hygiene profession to improve the public's oral and overall health". ADHA's new vision statement is "Dental hygienists are integrated into the health care delivery system as essential primary care providers to expand access to oral health care". Additional changes include charter agreements with all constituents (state level associations) and components (local level associations), staffing analysis and restructure and a new project "Governance of Tomorrow" that is currently looking at the leadership structure of ADHA.

The charter agreements furnish ADHA a viable legal structure that gives the association flexibility as it works to transform the profession while continuing to deliver value and transparency to its members and works to protect its volunteer trustees, officers, and constituent and component leaders from personal liability for activities conducted by the organization.

ADHA, working with numerous allies, continues to push the dental hygiene profession forward as its most visible and vocal advocate in the United States:

- ADHA worked closely with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the Council on Dental Accreditation (CODA) to help get the “CODA Standards for Dental Therapy Education Programs” developed and approved.
- The State Educators Network was revised and reinstated. Preparing for a future that will have many new and expanded work environments. ADHA is in its second year partnering with the Academy for Academic Leadership (AAL), a collaborative of scholars, educational experts and academic leaders, to coordinate pilot programs to create innovative curricula and learning domains around the country. Phase one with six schools participating is completed and phase two with seven additional programs is in pilot.
- Numerous papers have been developed and published in the past several years highlighting the potential of dental hygiene:
 - The Pew Center on States –
 - January 2013, *Falling Short: Most States Lag on Dental Sealants*
 - October 2, 2014, *Working with Mid-level Providers: Dentists’ Perspectives*
 - January 2016, *Five Issues in Dental Health Care to Watch in 2016*
 - Journal of Public Health Dentistry –
 - Summer 2013, *Feasibility of Colocating Dental Hygienists into Medical Practices*
 - National Governors’ Association –
 - January 2014, *The Role of Dental Hygienists in Providing Access to Oral Health Care*
 - Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services –
 - July 10, 2014, *Update on CMS Oral Health Initiative and Other Oral Health Related Items*
 - This introduced new insurance codes for screenings, assessment, and caries risk categories.
 - Additionally, a new insurance code was just created to recognize gingivitis.
 - ADHA –
 - Dental Hygiene Diagnosis Position Paper
 - Dental Hygiene Diagnosis, State Statute Overview
 - Dental Hygiene Diagnosis Fact Sheet

To learn more about ADHA, please visit our website at www.adha.org