



Education Committee Report of the International Federation of Dental Hygienists: Education Committee

September 2022 to March 2024

Submitted May 8th 2024

Alexandra Sheppard House of Delegate Canada (2022-2023)

Description:

The Education Committee has had a small role as of the last few years but with so many members going to virtual learning it is the perfect time for a committee to create a robust webinar series. You don't have to be the presenters but you can all probably identify a great presenter you have heard and a topic of current interest to our members. There are also sponsors that are running webinars weekly and the committee could see how we could work together to increase the attendance for both the sponsor and IFDH.

Chair:	Alexandra Sheppard	Canada	sheppardade@gmail.com
Members:	Dikla Barzilai	Israel	diklarb@gmail.com
	Tammy Filipiak	USA	tfliprdh87@outlook.com
	Donna Patton	Ireland	treasurer@ifdh.org

Meetings Held:

1. September 10th 2022
2. November 19th 2022
3. January 14th 2023
4. March 18th 2023
5. June 10th 2023
6. August 26th 2023
7. October 29th 2023
8. December 2nd 2023
9. January 13th 2024
10. March 23rd 2024

The IFDH Education Committee met ten times virtually over zoom over the past 18 months. An agenda was sent out prior to each meeting. Minutes were taken following each meeting and distributed. Each meeting included a welcome and check-in of the committee members. As committee members were from 4 different time zones, meetings were scheduled on Saturdays to accommodate the members.



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The committee provided a critical review of the Education Academy Section on the IFDH website <https://ifdh.org/>. The Education Academy Section had not been updated in the recent past. A review of each section of the Education Academy Section on the website was reviewed. The original order of the Education Section was reordered. A section on "Dental Hygienist" was moved to the "About IFDH" Section as it was not relevant to the Education Academy Section which is more appropriate for dental hygienists. Suggestions were compiled as recommendations and forwarded to the Executive to approve.

The following information was updated:

Articles of Interest <https://ifdh.org/articles-of-interest/>

Links to dental hygiene journals and links to research databases were updated. These include:

- International Journal of Dental Hygiene
- Canadian Journal of Dental Hygiene
- Link to Pub Med
- Link to Cochrane Library
- Link to Clinical Key

A request was made for peer reviewed articles from member countries, but this was not incorporated into the section.

Books <https://ifdh.org/res-books/#>

Reference materials have been updated, albeit the images for the textbooks continue to be outdated. Updated links to the following texts were provided:

- Oral Pathology for the dental hygienist
- Patient Assessment Tutorials

The reference texts and resource links used by the National Examinations for both Canada and the USA are included.

Links to publishers are now present on the "Books" Section.



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Global OH Summit Videos <https://ifdh.org/global-oh-summit-videos/#>

Current videos were updated and include hyperlinks to the video from the IFDH Global Oral Health Summit 2021.

Links <https://ifdh.org/res-links/>

Links to some of the oral health related sites were out of date or not applicable to IFDH. A review of all links was initiated and all links were updated. There is one link, the Colgate White Papers, which does not have a hyperlink attached.

Research Exchange <https://ifdh.org/research-exchange/>

The committee requested a survey be sent out to affiliated countries to update the database of dental hygienists with doctoral degrees.

Surveys <https://ifdh.org/surveys/>

All surveys conducted by IFDH and their results are available in this Section.

Webinars <https://ifdh.org/webinars/>

The majority of the meetings centred around webinars and making these as accessible as possible for members from non-English speaking communities. A concern among members is the lack of appropriate continuing education opportunities for dental hygienists across the globe. Links were provided for free or lower cost webinars available in member countries in Canada, the USA and Europe. To assist non-English-speaking dental hygienists two links for translations were provided.

In the early meetings of the committee, there was discussion about developing our own webinar and translating these. This was not a viable option as the costs to create the webinar and translate the webinar were limiting factors. The decision was to find webinars currently developed for access to dental hygienists across the globe. The committee spent time researching translation sites that could be accessed by dental hygienists.



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White Papers <https://ifdh.org/white-papers/>

The following suggestions are encouraged either prior to the IFDH House of Delegate meeting in Seoul Korea or as part of the new committee:

1. Add the link for webinars from the Slovak Republic for the “Webinar” Section:
<https://adhs.sk/skolenia-a-akcie/>
2. Propose that a policy development for webinars be discussed at the Executive level.
3. Request a list of books from the European Dental Hygienists Federation Association
4. Correct the name on the webinars section from European Dental Federation Association to the European Dental Hygienists Federation Association
5. The transfer folder of all minutes should be forwarded by Alexandra Sheppard to the new committee chair.
6. Develop a course evaluation form for the symposium in Seoul.

The chair, Alexandra Sheppard, would like to thank the committee members, Dikla Barzilai and Tammy Filipiak, for researching sections between meetings and the support from Donna Patton from the IFDH Executive.