

Position on Corporate Dentistry

European Dental Students' Association

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1. Introduction

The Corporate Dentistry Strategy presents fundamental concepts for delivering higher-quality oral health treatment and achieving better results nationwide by sector and organization. The future of oral care relies on effective cooperation between health disciplines, reinforcing the need to integrate public health into corporate dental practice. The expanding notion of comprehensive health, including basic oral health services, plays a very important role in expanding universal health coverage and should be incorporated into corporate dental offerings. This integration offers benefits like early detection and management of related health issues, as well as equitable access to quality dental care.

Key barriers to integration include changing demographics and social determinants of health (SDOH)—factors that necessitate corporate dental providers to excel as members of integrated, multidisciplinary health care teams delivering holistic care. Corporate dentistry must highlight the importance of oral health as a fundamental part of general health and advocate for accessible services.

By adopting integrated healthcare pathways in the dental practice, coordination and enhanced care quality could be achieved. This integration though, requires policy changes, effective collaboration training, and a comprehensive approach to healthcare education.

Dental students increasingly view corporate dentistry as a forward-thinking, integrative model that aligns with their commitment to holistic, patient-centered care. They appreciate that by embedding public health principles into corporate practice—emphasizing preventive care, interdisciplinary collaboration, and community-based initiatives—this model not only improves treatment quality and access but also addresses oral health disparities on a systemic level. In essence, many dental students see corporate dentistry as a pathway to a more equitable and innovative future in oral health care, where continuous professional growth and a deeper understanding of social determinants of health are key to transforming care delivery.

Advocacy is termed as necessary to implement supportive policies within corporate wellness programs, requiring continuous effort and strategic planning. Addressing social and commercial health determinants of health is indeed vital for tackling economic barriers. Social equity is essential for building a healthier society.

2. Purpose

This initiative is the first to incorporate public health principles into corporate dentistry, aiming to reduce oral disease and standardize health education within the corporate sector.



3. Scope

This policy encourages recognizing the role of interdisciplinary collaboration, promoting integration of corporate dental care with public health experts from educational institutions, non-profits, and policymakers to tackle oral health disparities.

4. Policy Statement

Corporate dentistry entities should be encouraged to:

- Integrate public health elements into dental service frameworks.
- Promote preventive measures to reduce oral health disparities.
- Fund research on population health effects that influence policy.
- Conduct regular evaluations of healthcare sectors.
- Employ multidisciplinary training across specialties.
- Promote employee wellness through oral health programs.
- Support community-based initiatives that enhance public health strategies.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

Corporate dental providers, healthcare managers, and decision-makers must implement recommendations to promote equality and fairness in health services.

6. Definitions

PUBLIC HEALTH (PH)

It is defined as the health of the population as a whole, especially as the subject of government regulation and support as well as efforts focused on improving population health through prevention and health promotion. PH aims to improve the health of populations by improving their health and preventing disease (European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies).

COORPORATE DENTISTRY

The integration of dental services into corporate health systems to enhance employee health and community dental initiatives.



INTEGRATION OF CARE

Coordination among all care providers to streamline treatment and eliminate redundancy.

7. Related Documents

This Policy should be read in conjunction with:

- FDI Vision 2030
 Available at: FDI World Dental Federation
- Public Health Definition and Strategies
 European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies: Link
- Corporate Dentistry, Position Statement of the American College of Prosthodontists, https://www.prosthodontics.org/about-acp/position-statement-corporate-dentistry/

8. Contact

Any queries regarding this policy should be directed to the EDSA Policy Officer.

9. Policy Review

This position paper will undergo reviews regularly, in order to align with evolving global health strategies and corporate policies.

10. References

- 1. Unmet Health Care Needs Statistics (Eurostat, 2022) Available at: Eurostat
- 2. Public Health Definition and Strategies European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies: *Link*
- 3. Social Determinants of Health Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Available at: CDC Social Determinants
- 4. Nandakumar, C., & Robinson, P. G. (2011). Teaching dental public health to undergraduates using community profiles and patient case studies Community Dent Health, PMID: 21485248



- 5. Brown WC, Bumann A: Corporate dentistry: making an informed practice decision; 2014 Jul 12-14; Margaret River (AU). PowerPoint presentation available from: http://www.asdanet.org/uploadedfiles/Events/Presentations/AS14/AGD%20breako ut.pptx. Accessed May 15, 2015.
- 6. Vujicic M: Shedding light on the invisible hand a labor market approach to health workforce policy. Presented at the: Annual Session of the American Dental Association, San Francisco, 18–21 October 2012. Chicago: American Dental Association; 2012.

