



# O-Health-Edu



**A COLLABORATIVE CHARTER  
ON THE VISION OF ORAL  
HEALTH PROFESSIONALS  
EDUCATION IN EUROPE**



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**We the undersigned**, as the recognised representatives of our respective organisations,

In drawing on the status of Oral Health in Europe and worldwide :

1. The significant recognition of importance of oral diseases and conditions within public health by [the World Health Assembly in its 2021 resolution](#);
2. The recognised objective of including Oral Health within Universal Health Coverage for all individuals and communities by 2030 laid down in the [2022 WHO global strategy on Oral Health](#);

In drawing on the status of Oral Health Professionals' Education :

1. The [Resolution by the Member States gathered in the Council of Ministers to strengthen the European Education Area and beyond \(2021-2030\)](#);
2. The consensus surrounding the updated professional profiles and competences detailed in the ADEE's [Graduating European Dentist Curriculum](#);
3. The EU commission's ongoing review related to Annex 5 of the Directive 2005/36 on the Professionals' Qualifications (related to education of dental practitioners), so as to regularly adapt dental training to recognise scientific and technical progress;
4. The Erasmus+ funded project O-Health-Edu's vision for Oral Health Professionals' education in Europe;

**Acknowledge that,**

1. Education models that are **person-centred**, built in accordance with populations and society needs are expected at policy and public health levels, and are deemed to be **educational best practices**;
2. Responsiveness to academic and clinical research ensures contemporaneous oral healthcare practices that are **evidence-based**;



3. External, transparent and regular **quality assurance** mechanisms, that enable mutual trust within the Internal Market are central to the integrity of oral health professionals and academics
4. Since the first Council Directive 78/687/EEC of 25 July 1978 concerning the activities of dental practitioners, the practice of oral healthcare has evolved considerably, requiring a **comprehensive and diverse skillset** to allow the delivery of appropriate and quality person-centred oral healthcare.
5. Technological and organizational healthcare **innovations** feature strongly in Oral Health Professionals' education and practices, and are becoming central to the future of oral healthcare systems.
6. Oral health is increasingly recognized as a key component of general health, requiring Oral Health Professionals to practice within more diverse and wider **various environments** including delivering care in community settings.
7. UN **Sustainable Development Goals** lead to an urgent need for a global commitment in Oral Health Professionals' education and in oral healthcare delivery for more sustainable, accountable and integrated practices ([THE 17 GOALS](#))
8. In a changing European context, health professionals' profiles are evolving at different paces. A wider range of professionals is now called upon to work within and around the **oral healthcare team**, with an increased emphasis on shared practices and collaborative healthcare delivery models.
9. These evolutions take place in an exceptional context as the **W.H.O. prepares an action plan** for public oral health. This includes a monitoring framework with clear measurable targets to be achieved by 2030. For the first time, all Member States will be bound to adopt their national plans for oral health addressing e.g. health determinants, education, health workforce or regulation.

**We jointly commit to** enable an agenda for change that sets in motion an optimal student and patient experience, for oral



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healthcare to be delivered in a modern, sustainable, integrated and caring manner.

We **recognise** that this will requires a coordinated response achieved through

1. Improved inter-stakeholder collaboration
2. Being respectful of each stakeholder's autonomy, expertise and professions
3. Ensuring that patients and students are at the core of our person-centred framework
4. Promoting a holistic vision of oral health
5. Developing sustainable healthcare and education models in the best interest of society



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### Sign on behalf of our respective organisations

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