

COMPULSORY CPD TOPICS SUGGESTED BY GREEK DENTISTS

Anastassia Kossioni , Argyro Kavadella, Ioannis Tzoutzas, Kostas Tsiklakis

School of Dentistry, University of Athens, Greece, email: akossion@dent.uoa.gr

Introduction and Aim

The DentCPD project aims at the Harmonization and Standardization of European Dental Schools' Programs of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for Graduate Dentists. One of the objectives is to develop agreement on core CPD components.

The aim of this presentation was to investigate the opinion of a sample of Greek dentists on which CPD topics out of a list of 13 should be compulsory

Methods

European Dental Schools, Dental Associations and others were initially online surveyed to indicate which CPD topics out of a list of 23 were currently compulsory in their country, and which topics they thought should be compulsory. There were 143 responses from 30 EU member and candidate countries. Thirteen topics achieving at least 50% agreement were further presented to sample groups of dentists in four EU countries asking them to indicate which of them should be compulsory. The original paper-based questionnaire was translated in Greek and distributed to dentists attending a CPD course organised by the Athens Dental Association in April 2011.

Results

Are you a graduate dentist?	n (%)
Yes	72 (100%)
Years in practice (mean, range)	17 (0-36)
Your main role *	
Teaching faculty	4 (6%)
Practitioner salaried	8 (11%)
Practitioner, self employed	64 (89%)
Your workplace*	
Private practice	61 (85%)
Working in Hospitals / Public Insurance	7 (10%)
Dental School	4 (6%)
Specialist Practice	3 (4%)
Other	2 (3%)
* All that applied	

For the following list of CPD topics, please indicate which you think should be compulsory		
Topic	Athens (n=72)	EU Surveys* (n=554)
Cardiopulmonary resuscitation, medical emergencies	69 (96%)	472 (85%)
The Medically Compromised Patient	63 (88%)	373 (67%)
Cross infection control/decontamination	55 (76%)	422 (76%)
Pain Management	49 (68%)	274 (50%)
Radiation protection	38 (53%)	332 (60%)
Health and Safety	35 (47%)	274 (50%)
Risk Management	35 (47%)	222 (40%)
Legal Issues	34 (47%)	251 (45%)
Child Protection	32 (44%)	270 (49%)
Health Education and Prevention	28 (39%)	223 (40%)
Record Keeping	28 (39%)	215 (39%)
Evidence-based Dentistry	26 (36%)	269 (49%)
Communication Skills	26 (36%)	216 (39%)
Other (E-learning, Pedodontics, Oral Pathology, Pharmacology, Management of Dental Practice)	8 (11%)	* EU DentCPD online survey and paper-based surveys during CPD meetings in 4 countries

Conclusions

The three most commonly suggested compulsory topics for the Greek dentists were: a) medical emergencies and cardiopulmonary resuscitation, b) the medically compromised patient and c) cross infection control/ decontamination and disinfection. Those three topics were highly rated by respondents in other similar surveys across Europe, indicating common educational needs among European dentists. Those views should be taken into consideration in discussions for consensus on core CPD components.