

Education and Culture DG
Lifelong Learning Programme

DentCPD

Core Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Topics for Graduate Dentists

Bullock A, Cowpe JG, Bailey S, Barnes E, Phillips S

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Introduction - "DentCPD"

CPD is essential for the maintenance of dentists' knowledge and skills, underpinning safe clinical practice.

DentCPD aims to harmonise CPD for graduate dentists across the EU

Collaboration between six organisations:

- Cardiff University, UK
- National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece
- Rīga Stradiņš University, Latvia
- University of Helsinki, Finland
- Academic Centre for Dentistry, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE) based in the University of Dublin dental school in Ireland

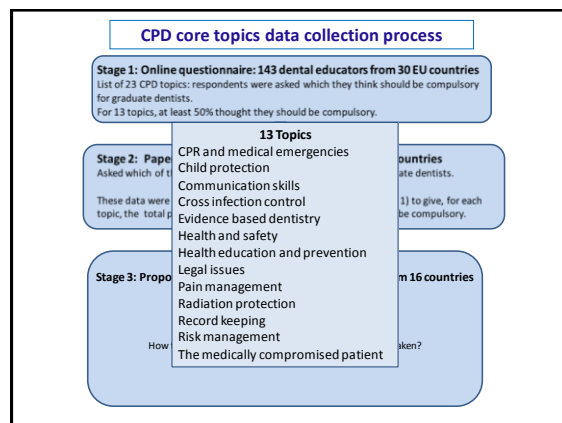
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Aim and Method

Aim: to seek agreement on core CPD topics.

Method: A 3-stage process, consulting with both dental educators and practitioners and involving both questionnaires and discussion groups.



Core Topics Survey Results

Topic	EU DentCPD survey % (n) (n)	Should be compulsory					Across countries % of 411 (n)	Total % (n)
		UK % of 125 (n)	NL % of 115 (n)	Greece % of 72 (n)	Latvia % of 98 (n)			
Medical emergencies (including cardiopulmonary resuscitation)	94 (118/125)	99 (125)	81 (93)	96 (69)	72 (71)	87 (358)	89 (476)	
Cross infection control/decontamination & disinfection	91 (111/122)	96 (121)	68 (78)	76 (65)	58 (57)	76 (311)	79 (422)	
The medically compromised patient	71 (79/112)	60 (75)	72 (83)	88 (63)	76 (74)	72 (295)	71 (373)	
Radiation protection	86 (102/119)	87 (109)	41 (47)	49 (35)	40 (39)	56 (230)	63 (332)	
Health & safety	71 (77/109)	55 (69)	38 (44)	49 (35)	50 (49)	48 (197)	53 (274)	
Pain management	57 (60/106)	38 (48)	42 (48)	69 (60)	69 (68)	52 (214)	53 (274)	
Child protection	65 (73/113)	64 (81)	25 (29)	44 (32)	56 (55)	48 (197)	52 (270)	
Evidence based dentistry	66 (74/113)	33 (42)	49 (56)	36 (26)	72 (71)	47 (195)	51 (269)	
Legal issues	60 (69/115)	48 (61)	19 (22)	47 (34)	66 (65)	44 (182)	48 (251)	
Health education and prevention	63 (69/108)	25 (31)	31 (36)	39 (28)	61 (60)	38 (155)	43 (223)	
Risk management	48 (51/106)	37 (46)	39 (45)	49 (35)	46 (45)	42 (171)	43 (222)	
Communication skills	61 (71/114)	25 (31)	27 (31)	36 (26)	59 (58)	36 (146)	41 (216)	
Record keeping	50 (52/105)	45 (57)	25 (29)	39 (28)	50 (49)	40 (163)	42 (215)	

Core CPD discussion

The proposal:

- There will be **three core compulsory topics** which must be regularly undertaken by graduate dentists practicing in the EU:
 - medical emergencies (including CPR)
 - cross infection control (disinfection and decontamination)
 - medically compromised patient (for those taking x-rays, using scanners)
- In addition, there will be **five core recommended topics**:
 - radiation protection
 - health and safety
 - safe practice with children & vulnerable adults
 - child protection
 - evidence based dentistry

Core compulsory topics How often?

For **medical emergencies** (including CPR)
Refresher every year with more comprehensive course every 5 years

For other **core compulsory topics** :

- **cross infection control** (disinfection and decontamination)
- **medically compromised patient**
- **radiation protection**

Every 5 years

Conclusion

Just four core compulsory topics with high levels of agreement - should be acceptable and relevant to the large majority of dental practitioners.

These 4 are patient-focused: including these as part of CPD requirements should improve likelihood of patients receiving comparably high standards of care across EU.

Dental regulatory bodies should respond to the willingness of the dental profession to establish core CPD topics.



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Dent CPD – The Team



Cardiff University, UK
Jon Cowpe, Alison Bullock, Jan Davidge, Hannah Thomas, Sarah Bailey, Emma Barnes, Richard Thomas, Suzanne Phillips

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece
Argyro Kavadella, Anastasia Kossioni (Kostas Tsiklakis ?)

University of Helsinki, Finland
Terhi Karaharju-Suvalo, Kimmo Suomalainen

Academic Centre for Dentistry (ACTA), Amsterdam, Netherlands
Henk Kersten, Eva Povel

Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE), Dublin, Ireland
Majella Giles, Damien Walmsley

Riga Stradiņš University, Latvia
Una Soboleva, Andra Liepa
Ilze Akota

