



European Dental Students' Association

PRESS RELEASE

CLINICAL PRACTICE IN EU DENTAL SCHOOLS: Preliminary Results

In Spring 2016, the EDSA led an international investigation on clinical practice in EU Dental schools.

The survey included 53 questions regarding the environment surrounding clinical practice (material, training, evaluation), as well as the frequency and capacity to perform autonomously of 34 selected dental procedures. Made online and translated into 7 languages (English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish), the survey was sent to EU students via the European Dental Students Association.

2015 graduates and final year students from 2016 were targeted. A total of 964 students participated in the questionnaire, from 19 countries. Each parameter was calculated nationally, then added and weighted according to the ratio of each member country's annual graduates in the E.U.

The preliminary results show:

10% of students have not performed any clinical procedures on patients. This is an important number and appears to be in contradiction with the 2005/36/EC Directive on the recognition of professional qualifications.

- **Frequency of performance is very heterogeneous in the European Union.** There are important variations amongst operators and basic dental procedures.

EDSA believes that there is a strong need for an enforced harmonisation of dental curriculums, particularly when providing students with basic clinical training on patients. Compliance with Directive 2005/36/EC is lagging behind in this area.

A statement on this rising phenomenon will be voted and published by the EDSA General Assembly in August 2016. The full survey results will be published in a scientific article by the end of the year.

Further information on the preliminary results in Annex I attached.

Questions :

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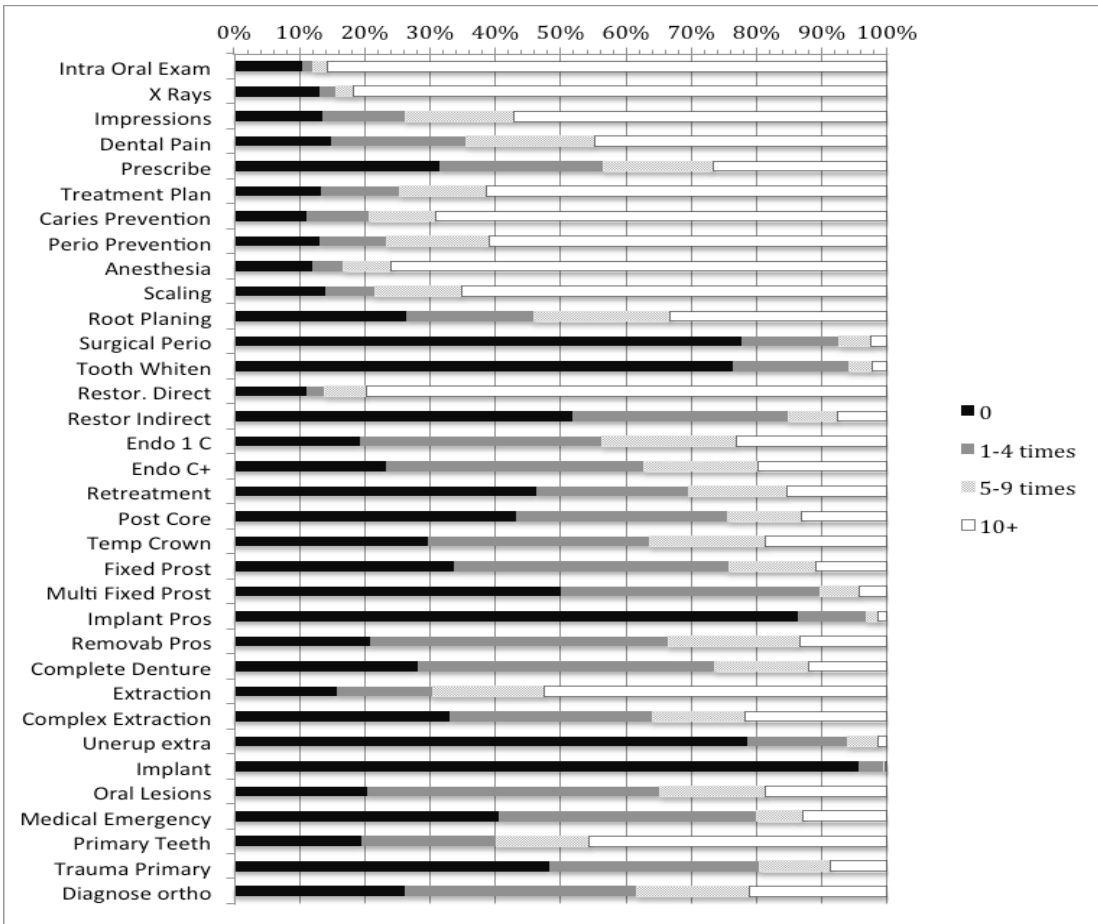
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mazevet'.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Banjsak'.

Annex I:

Summary poster

FREQUENCY OF PERFORMANCE OF DENTAL PROCEDURES



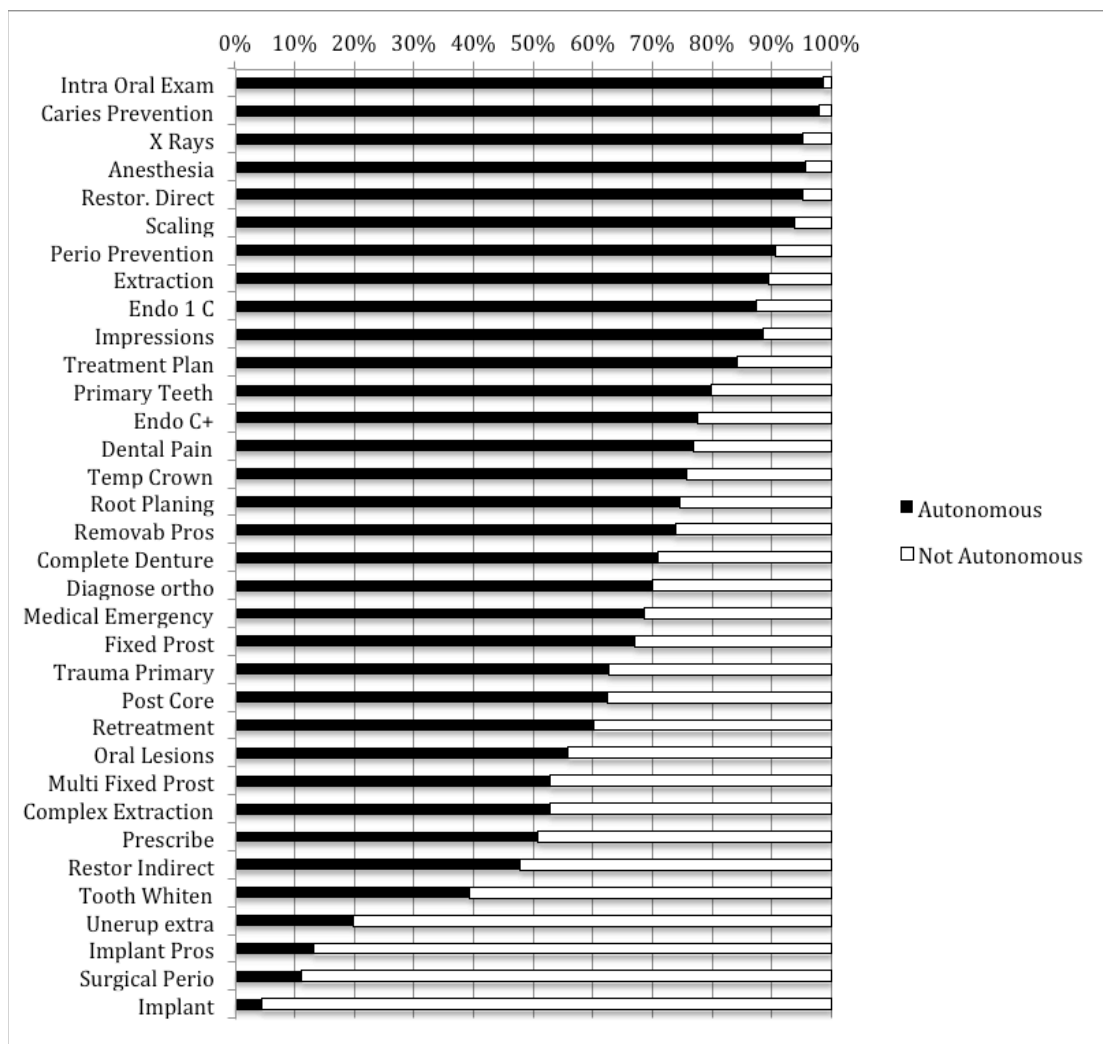
(Confidence level= 95% Confidence interval = +/-4%)

Students were asked if they had performed, throughout their entire curriculum, the 34 procedures 0, 1-4 times, 5-9 times, 10+ times.

- 10% of the students have not performed on patients (observer only) in their dental curriculum.
- 1/4 of the dental procedures have been performed more than 10 times by 60% of the students
- 2/3 of the selected dental procedures have been performed less than 5 times by the 50% of the students
- 75% of the students have never performed 5 dental procedures.

Some basic dental procedures, such as “prescribing drugs according to the patient’s medical history”, have not been performed by a third of dental students.

PERFORMING DENTAL PROCEDURES AUTONOMOUSLY



Students were asked if they felt able to perform autonomously the 34 dental procedures at the end of their curriculum.

- More than 50% of the students think they can perform autonomously 28 out of the 34 dental procedures.
- At least 90% of the students feel they can perform autonomously in 7 procedures out of 34.