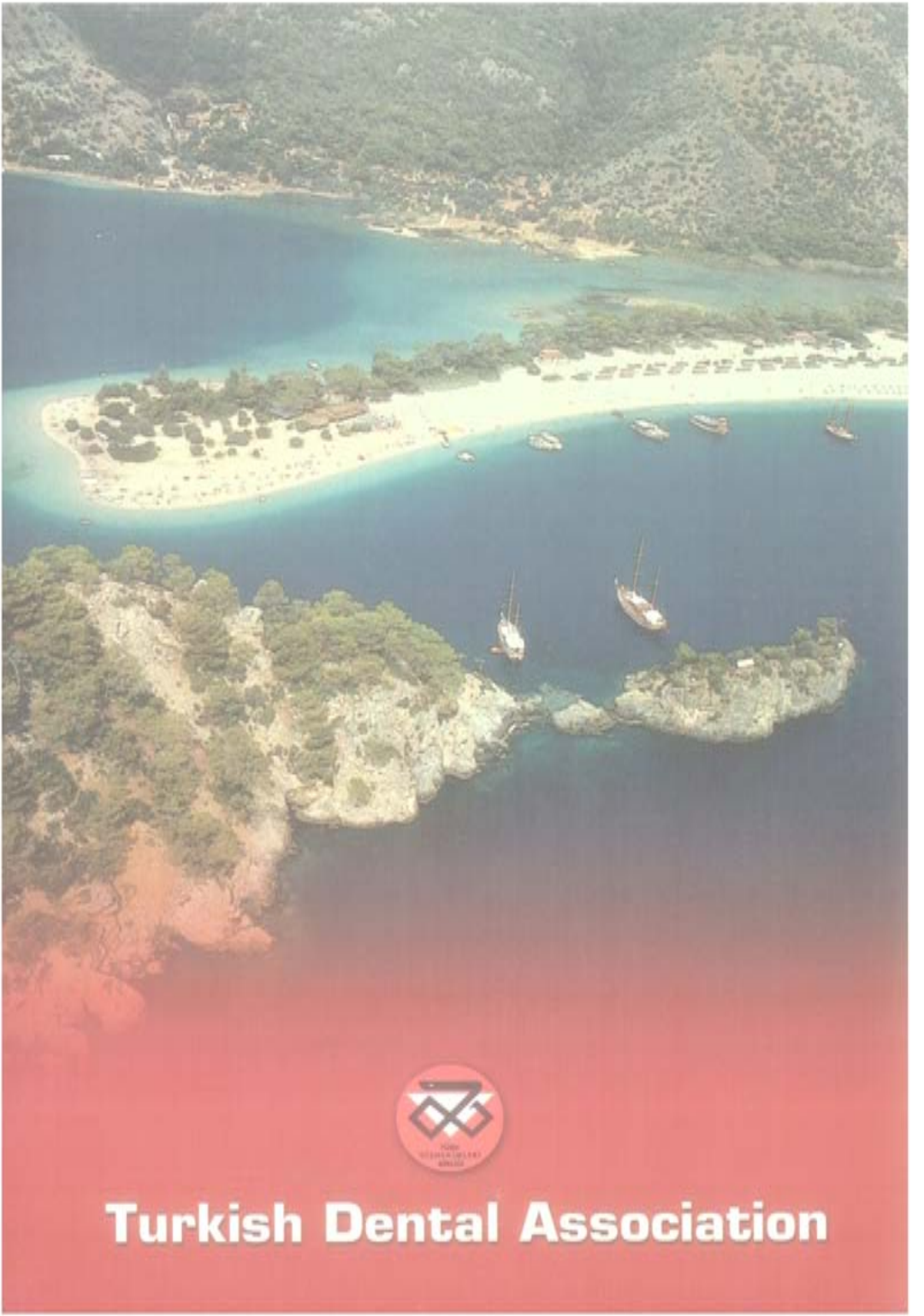


Turkish Dental Association





Turkish Dental Association

General Information

objectives, activities, future perspectives

Turkish Dental Association (TDA) is one of the most active professional association in Turkey and it acts as the "Voice" of 15.929 dentists. It is founded on June 7, 1985 as a regulatory body for dentistry in Turkey and the central office is located in the capital city of Turkey, Ankara.

POLICY & OBJECTIVES

TDA mainly aims to;

- improve and support dentistry as a profession
- assist colleagues in professional matters and defend their rights
- answer and comply with the common requests of colleagues
- maintain and improve professional, ethical and legal aspects of dentistry
- contribute to the improvement of the quality of public oral-dental health
- support scientific research activities through published material, congress organizations, award programmes and projects
- put into practice continuing dental education programmes for colleagues and assist them in their keep up-to-date efforts
- to improve the oral-dental health concern and interest of the public
- to contibute to and comply with the international dental world



DENTAL ORGANIZATION IN TURKEY

(Local Dental Chambers & TDA)

Dentists are organized through local chambers which exists in all cities where over 100 dentists are present and the delegates of chambers are representated in the organization of TDA. Currently 31 dental chambers function under the supervision of TDA. The Board and the Commitees (Central Audit Committee and Disciplinary Committee) of TDA are elected by local delegates in the General Assembly for a period of 2 years. In the General Assembly problems and solutions of profession is also discussed.

The Board of TDA consists of 11 members, while in the Central Audit Committe 5 members and in the Supreme Disciplinary Committee 9 members are present. The Board regularly meets at monthly intervals. The Supreme Disciplinary Committee has regular meetings in January, May and October, while the Central Audit Committee meets twice a year. Besides the Board and the Committees, there are also functioning commissions under the supervision of TDA.

■ Commissions of TDA

TDA has commissions working on specific issues and all of these commissions consist of volunteering colleagues. Currently TDA has the following actively functioning commissions.

- Scientific Commission
- Dental Ethics Commission
- Education Commission
- Foreign Affairs Commission
- Publication Commission
- Public Oral-Dental Health Commission
- Professional & Personal Rights Commission
- Social Commission
- Consumer Rights Commission
- Congress & Fair Commission

MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF TDA

- Performs and coordinates General Assembly.
- Complies with and puts into action the General Assembly decisions.
- Based on the suggestions of dental chambers, determines the minimum and compulsatory costs of dental examination and treatment which the private dental health service providing colleagues have to comply with and submits the list to the Ministry of Health.
- Prepares and supervises the necessary regulations for maintaining and improving the professional and ethical aspects of the profession.
- Makes efforts to establish and maintain the ethical codes between the dentists and the dental patients.

Aims to improve the quality of the profession in every field of dentistry.

- Determines the standards.
- Carries out projects with related organizations to improve the qu-

ality of public oral-dental health.

• Puts into practice continious education programmes in order to make colleagues keep up-to-date and comply with current developments and trends in dentistry.

TDA, works as partners with the related govermental and public officers, to provide reasonable solutions for the matters of the profession. The President of TDA is a member of the Supreme Health Council and attends the regular meetings and contribute to decision making process. TDA is also a member of the National AIDS Commission of the Ministry of Health. Based on public benefits, TDA is also in touch with non-governmental organizations.

Dental chambers, which have close and direct relationships with the collagues, represent TDA on local basis. It is compulsary for colleagues to be a member of the local dental chambers to perform private dental practice. Local dental chambers and TDA work in coordination to improve the quality of the profession and support members in every aspect.

Continuing Dental Education Programme

Continuing dental education programme of TDA aims to improve the knowledge and experience in all fields of dentistry and keep up-to-date with current concepts, technology, trends and developments. Continuing dental education programme (through scientific events, journals and internet) is present, since 1998. To dentist who fulfill the requirements in a given time, certificates for continuing education are provided every 2 years by TDA. Since the beginning of this programme a total of 1985 dentists were provided with this certificate. TDA also financially supports the local dental chambers in their continuing dental education attempts.

Financial Sources

Basic financial sources of TDA are listed below.

- Payments (fee) of local dental chambers
- Educational activities
- Publications
- Projects
- Approval & Certification
- Funds

Designated Funds

Specific activities of TDA are put into practice through funds that are specific for these purposes. TDA has two designated funds designed for use in public oral-dental health related activites or to operate during disaster conditions.
N&MSWo Public Oral-Dental Health Fund : Founded to support public oral-dental health.
N&MSWo Disaster Fund: Founded to assist and support colleagues during disaster conditions. This fund was actively used in the earthquake disaster in 1997. The public and the colleagues and dental students affected by the earthquake in the region were supported.

Regulations and Rules *(published)*

TDA has the following published regulations. These guidelines are periodically dispersed to the members to make them keep up-to-date with the new regulations of the profession.

- Private (liberal) Oral-Dental Health Services
- Disciplinary regulations of TDA and local chambers
- Honorary membership

- Regulations on the services of TDA and local chambers
- Regulations on contracted-working dentists
- Congress and fair regulations
- Regulations on establishment of commissions of TDA and local chambers

Other Regulations

- Students
- Scholarship fund
- Compliance of oral hygiene products
- Approval of oral hygiene products
- Problem solving on matters among dental patients - dentists - chambers
- Disaster fund
- Continiuing dental education

Regulations on Standardization

In 1999, TDA put into practice a new regulation concerning the determination of medical and physical standards of private dental practice (dental offices, clinics, oral-dental health centers) in Turkey. This new regulation on standardization determines every aspect of private dental practice including the physical features of the operating room and the other parts of the dental office, sterilization, emergency conditions and management of clinical solid waste . Based on these standards local dental chambers were requested to evaluate dental offices for compliance and collagues were given license based on the evaluation. TDA believes that this regulation will significantly contribute to the improvement of the profession and the quality of oral-dental health services in Turkey. TDA is willing to share this knowledge and experience with the associations of the countries lacking such a regulation.



Congress Organization

Since 1992, each year a scientific dental congress is held by TDA. With the great number of attendance, quality of the scientific programme and dental exhibition, this congress is one of the major scientific events in Turkey. TDA has currently organized 1 National and 8 International dental congresses & dental exhibitions which are listed below.

- 1992 - İzmir (International)
- 1994 - İstanbul (International)
- 1995 - İstanbul (National)
- 1996 - Ankara (International)
- 1997 - İstanbul (International)
- 1998 - Bursa (International)
- 1999 - İstanbul (International - FDI/TDA joint congress)
- 2000 - Mersin (International)
- 2001 - İstanbul (International)

The 8th International Congress was held in 21-23 June, 2001 in Istanbul and over 20 international lecturers and 2500 dentists attended the congress. It was a pleasure to host the current president of FDI, Mr.Jacques Monnot, in this congress. In addition to the scientific events an exhibition was also held where dental companies presented dental products and equipments. A total of 115 local and international dental companies patricipated to this exhibition.

Business Meetings

- Dental Education-1996
- Public Oral-Dental Health- 1996
- Dental Education-1997
- Personnal and Professional Rights-1997
- Ethics-1998
- Oral-Dental Health Products-1999
- Organization, Financial Support and Presentation of Oral-Dental Health Services-2000
- Dental Products- From Production to Consumption-2001

International Membership & Activities

TDA is a regular member of Federation Dentaire Internationale (FDI) and European Regionale Organization (ERO). As a regular member organization, TDA complies with all of the the international regulations and responsabilities. TDA regularly informs colleagues on current consepts & matters, developments and trends of the international dental world. The delegation representing TDA participates to the regular meetings of FDI and ERO. In order to inform the members, reports on these meetings are also published in Journal of TDA.



TDA & PUBLIC ORAL - DENTAL HEALTH

It is one of the most important objectives of TDA to improve the public oral-dental health. Every effort is made to achieve this goal. TDA financially supports the oral-dental health projects of local chambers. Provides slides and published materials on public oral-dental health. TDA also carries out long-term and nation-wide projects to improve the quality of public oral-dental health.

Related Projects

- TDA - Signal - 1st National Oral - Dental Health Days Project – 1993
- TDA - Signal - 2nd National Oral - Dental Health Days Project – 1994
- TDA - Ministry of Education - Procter&Gamble - Oral - Dental Health Education-1997 (5 years)
- TDA - Colgate Palmolive - Ministry of Health - Tooth Protection Days – 2000
- TDA-Turkish Radio & Television-Signal- Oral-Dental Health Programme (January 2000-52 weeks)

TDA is specifically interested in the projects which aim to contribute to the improvement of the quality of public oral-dental health. Two examples of long-term oral-dental health projects of TDA, are summarized below.

1st project

Title of the project: "Oral-Dental Health Education Project"
Partners: The Ministry of Education - Procter & Gamble - TDA



Aim: In order bring up a generation which is more familiar with the "oral-dental health concept", this project aims to explain the "oral-dental health" concept and it's importance to young children, via teachers.

Procedure: In certain centers, the 2nd class teachers are given the necessary information & oral-dental health education required to take part in the project by the volunteerly participating colleagues. Oral-dental health education of students are carried out by these these teachers with periodic intervals throughout the education term. Published oral-dental health material is also provided.

Duration: This project is in it's 5th year.

Number of participants: A total of 78.930 teachers and 2.978.720 students are involved in the project up to now.

Additional services: Volunteering dentists also provide professional scaling & polishing (free of charge) to the participating teachers, on request.

2nd project



Title of the project: "Tooth Protection Days"
Partners: The Ministry of Health -Colgate Palmolive-TDA.
Aim: This project aims to contribute oral-dental health education of the public and also to provide "preventive dentistry care" for young children.
Procedure: The campaign is started with a press meeting. The names, telephone numbers and addresses of the volunteerly participating dentists, who agreed to make oral-dental examination of patients free of charge, were published in the national newspapers and campaign is advertized on television and radio and also with brochures. A Free Information Line was also provided for calls from the public.
Number of participants: A total of 2967 volunteering dentists took part in the campaign through patient education and dental examination. Approximately a population of 100.000 person was provided oral-dental examination and oral-dental health and hygiene instructions. Also fissure sealents were applied to 6-12 years old children free of charge. The average patient per dentist was 31.3. A total of 5196 persons called the Free Information Line.
Future perspectives: With the agreement between TDA and Colgate Palmolive, the campaign will be repeated next year.
TDA is determined and willing to continue to support and carry out projects on public oral-dental health and preventive dentistry.

AWARD PROGRAMMES

TDA believes that it is within it's responsabilities to contribute to the development of dental science. Thus TDA aims to support dental science and research activities through specific scientific award programmes.

- Public Oral-Dental Health Project and Scientific Research Award
- Prof.Dr.Yüksel Noras Scientific Research Award (Conservative Dentistry)
- Best Presentation & Scientific Research Award

PUBLICATIONS



TDA has a wide-range of publications concerning periodical dental journals, guidelines on professional regulations and books on specific aspects of dentistry. Through these publications TDA aims to contribute to the continious dental education of the colleagues, keep them up-to-date with the current regulations of the profession and activities of TDA and make them informed on the recent concepts and developments in dentistry and also on scientific events. The following is a short list of the available publications of TDA.

Journal of TDA: Published bimonthly for 14 years and is free of charge for the members.

Special Issues of Journal of TDA: Oral-Dental Hygiene Products, Infection Control in Dental Practice

Clinics in Dentistry: Being published for 12 years. Submission is required.

Publications on Research: Profile of Dentists, Achieving Dental Service and Patient Satisfaction, Professional Satisfaction and Social Status of Dentists and Quality of Dental Service, Achieving Oral-Dental Health Service

Business Meeting Reports: 2nd Education Assembly, 1st Oral-dental health Assembly, Professional&Personel Rights Assembly

Miscellaneous: Failure in Full Dentures and Solutions, Success and Patient Motivation in Dental Practice, Regulations on Private Oral-Dental Health Service Providing Dental Organizations, Regulations in Dentistry, Responsabilities and Rights in Dental Practice, TDA in Earthquake, Illegal Dentistry

TDA'S WEB-SITE

TDA's web-site (www.tdb.org.tr) is designed to keep in contact with colleagues, inform them on current issues, carry out continuing dental education and give information on the activities of TDA. It is an interactive site where colleagues may discuss any matter, send requests to the Board and take dental courses. The web page of TDA is designed in Turkish and English.

TDA & EARTHQUAKE

As mentioned above TDA has a specific fund for the solution of matters originating from disaster conditions. In 1997 a severe earthquake disaster happened in Turkey which led to a great pain and sorrow. TDA was one of the quickly organized associations in helping the region in both professional and other aspects. TDA already had a fund for disaster conditions which was actively used. TDA provided all the



necessary items for the people in the area (food, hygiene products, drugs etc...). Furthermore, a donation campaign (national-international) was started for additional financial support or for supply of dental equipments or dental materials for the colleagues who had lost their lives, relatives, houses and offices. TDA significantly contributed to the colleagues in establishing their new dental offices. Dental students in the region were also financially supported. TDA also coordinated the emergency dental care (extractions, periodontal treatment, fillings and emergency prosthetic pplications) given by volunteer colleagues (over 200) in mobile dental units. All the dental materials used in these treatment approaches were provided by TDA.
TDA appreciates the support of FDI , dental associations and dental companies from all over the world and considers this partnership as an evidence of friendship and as an experience which always be worth remembering.

FUTURE RESPECTIVES & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Dental system is growing in every field of dentistry without exception. Number of dental faculties, number of dentists, number of students having post-graduate education, the number of academic staff, number of international publications, number of scientific meetings, number of dental companies and manufacturers and local engineers and technicians in dental industry are all increasing.

TDA is also improving and becoming more powerful with increasing members and activities. There is no doubt that this trend of development will continue in the future. In the era of science and knowledge TDA mainly concerns to keep up-to-date and comply with the current developments and principles of dentistry and continue to serve the dental system in Turkey. In the near future, TDA also intends to contribute to the International Dental World in a more efficient way, through exchange of knowledge and experience and cooperation with other dental associations, which TDA considers as partners. Thus, TDA is ready and open to all kinds of partnership in all aspects of dentistry.



To contact us:

Turkish Dental Association

Ziya Gökalp Cad, No: 37/11

06410 Kızılay - Ankara -Turkiye

Phone : + 90 312 435 93 94

Fax : + 90 312 430 29 59

e-mail : tdb@pleksus.net.tr

http//:www.tdb.org.tr



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