



Pierre Fabre  
**ORAL CARE**

## Oral Health Professional Training



### **Who we are**

#### **About European Dental Hygienist Federation (EDHF):**

The European Dental Hygienists Federation (EDHF) is a non-profit organisation representing 19 national dental hygienist associations across Europe (according to World Health Organisation – Regional Office for Europe (WHO-EURO)). Together, the 21 member-associations of EDHF represent approximately 35,000 dental hygienists.

#### **About Pierre Fabre**

Pierre Fabre is a French pharmaceutical and dermo-cosmetics group, founded in 1962 by Mr. Pierre Fabre. In 2015, it achieved a turnover of 2,208 million euros, 58% of which was generated internationally, in 130 countries. The company is structured around two divisions: Pierre Fabre Médicament (medicines, consumer health products) and Pierre Fabre Dermo-Cosmétique (which owns the Eau Thermale Avène brand—a leader in the European and Asian markets). Pierre Fabre has a worldwide workforce of 13,000 people and subsidiaries in 43 countries. In 2015, the company dedicated almost 200 million euros to research and innovation, shared between oncology, dermatology, the central nervous system, consumer healthcare and dermo-cosmetics. The Pierre Fabre group is 86% owned by the Pierre Fabre Foundation —a government-recognized public-interest organization since 1999— and by company employees.

To find out more about Pierre Fabre, visit [www.pierre-fabre.com](http://www.pierre-fabre.com).

#### **About Pierre Fabre Oral Care (PFOC)**

For almost 50 years, the Pierre Fabre Oral Care Laboratories have built up considerable expertise in the field of oral care, offering a variety of oral health and hygiene products. These products cover all patient needs, from daily hygiene to treating oral health conditions, with innovative formulas that incorporate benchmark molecules, for precise and targeted action.

Pierre Fabre Oral Care works in close partnership with pharmacists and dental surgeons, offering them a range of original products that are ideal for preventing and treating the problems they encounter in their work on a daily basis.

A world-renowned pharmaceutical laboratory in the oral health sector, Pierre Fabre Oral Care is a key public health player that gets involved in information and prevention campaigns for healthcare professionals and the general public.

For several years, the laboratory has been the leader in oral hygiene in pharmacies in France and other European countries, such as Bulgaria and Portugal.

## **What we do?**

### **European Dental Hygienist Federation:**

The purpose of the EDHF is to promote oral health and the prevention of oral diseases by fostering access to high quality, preventive oral health care as part of general health care.

The EDHF strives to strengthen and promote the profession of dental hygienists across Europe on a non-governmental basis.

The EDHF provides a platform for the exchange of information between national dental hygienist associations and cooperates with other European associations of oral health professionals.

### **Pierre Fabre Oral Care :**

A healthy mouth is essential for quality of life, psychosocial wellbeing and general good health. Every stage in life contributes to building a healthy mouth with appropriate treatment to individual needs.

Building healthy mouths for more than 45 years, Pierre Fabre Oral Care, an independent French laboratory, is an established key player that works in partnership with health professionals to promote and improve oral health throughout the world.

## **Objectives :**

### **for the European Dental Hygienist Federation:**

- Strengthen the dental hygienist profession by working towards recognition of the profession in all European countries
- Collaborate on education of the dental hygienist, at training and continuous professional development levels.
- Support each other in professional development, scientifically, in the labor market, at universities and amongst healthcare professionals.
- Collaborate with other organisations order to strengthen oral health in society.

### **For Pierre Fabre Oral Care:**

Pierre Fabre Oral care's commitments manifests itself through:

- The development of oral hygiene and care products, the fruits of Pierre Fabre Oral Care research, developed, tested and delivered by healthcare professional
- Supports for dentists' and dental hygienists' therapeutic action on different oral pathologies and for their educational role with patients in terms of hygiene.
- Training and support for pharmacists in their role of recommending & supplying oral care products suited to individuals' needs.
- Educating the general public and improving awareness of the golden rules of good oral care
- Support for different scientific societies in oral medicine

## **The project: Oral Health Professional training**

**-> A great collaboration EDHF/PFOC**

Pierre Fabre Oral Care (PFOC) and European Dental Hygienist Federation have been partners since 2016. During that time, EDHF and PFOC have found common objectives to strengthen both the dental hygienist profession and the oral health in the society.

In a first step the collaboration focused on dissemination and communication regarding the Common Education Framework (CEF) for European dental hygienist. The CEF defines a

standard framework for dental hygienist education giving universities and dental hygiene program a possibility to tailor programs in line with local demands and aspirations. In this second step the collaboration seeks to facilitate the opportunity to meet demands for continuing education among dental hygienists in oral health care. The platform courses will provide updated education in the oral health field meeting expectation from dental hygienists across Europe. The training courses has been developed within the Erasmus+ EuHyDens-project Ref nr. 2015-1-SE01-KA202-012278.

The modules that will be available on the *Oral Health Professional Training platform* are further developed and adjusted to the platform structure together with partners from the EuHyDens project team and educators.

To reach success when developing web-based courses, a well-structured learning method is crucial. The structure that will be used in the OHTP is an “Adaptive learning method”. The purpose when choosing this method was to meet the different pre-knowledge among the dental hygienists.

The courses will be grounded in evidence and best practice which involve a close collaboration with university programs. The courses shall also reflect the need in a society. This require close contact also with employers and other stakeholders engage in health matters. The universities have a special responsibility to share new knowledge and to disseminate result from studies and experiments. Therefore, collaboration will be established between partners who like to develop and offer courses for dental hygienists. Associations engaged in oral health care will be useful resource when identifying key persons at universities and help with basic facts regarding specific areas in the oral health area.

The *Oral Health Professional Training platform* will promote the dental hygienist’s preventive role in preserving good oral health. It will strengthen the potential for mobility and exchange in Europe for the dental hygienist and overall to spread awareness and knowledge about the importance of good oral health to the public.

The dental hygienist’s role in general health care is growing. Awareness about the link between the body and the mouth is nowadays established. The dental hygienists have an important role in smoke cessation, in care after a stroke, in palliative care, as a part of the diabetes team etc. Also, in the wider society, outside clinical setting the dental hygienist have an important role as a communicator and coach for children, adolescents, vulnerable people and elderly. To work in a multi-cultural environment with those individuals and groups require a broad and relevant education that gives the dental hygienist the competence and skills needed to secure patient safety and provide effective measures. An ethical understanding and deeper knowledge are essential when reaching out to different patients and/or clients.

The *Oral Health Professional Training platform* will establish opportunities for dental hygienists to upgrade their education trough access to web-based continuing education.

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