

Minutes of the 10. EFOSA Meeting at 159 Avenue de Malafoff, Paris, on Saturday 16th January, 1982 at 14.00 hours.

Attendance

1. Professor C. Bolender
2. Dr. N. Flood
3. Dr. C. Gysel
4. Dr. B. Genone
5. Dr. H. Quist-Jensen
6. Dr. P. Bertzbach
7. Dr. J.C. Bailey

The Meeting had been called to receive reports on present conditions in each members country, and also to receive suggestions from each country for improvements in the practice of Orthodontics, as Professor Bolender had arranged an invitation to meet with the Chef de division Monsieur J.J. Beuve Mery of the Commission Des Communantes Europeennes in Brussels. This was an invitation not usually extended to Specialist Groups.

Professor Bolender and Dr. Gysel were to meet with M. Beuve Mery on January 22nd, and wished to have a brief to discuss from representatives of each country. Professor Bolender stressed that this was an exploratory Meeting at which he hoped to promote EFOSA.

1. The Practice of Orthodontics, specialisation and the requirements for specialisation.

FRANCE

Professor Bolender circulated a report on the situation in France where a specialist training programme had been instituted. The course was for three years, part-time with examinations at the end.

There is a 'grandfather clause' to cater for those in practice before the scheme commenced, they may be considered for certification having been in exclusive practice for more than six years, and on examination of their 'curriculum vitae'.

DENMARK

Dr. Qvist-Jensen circulated a report on the Directories for specialisation in Denmark, for which there is a prescribed specialist course. There are 130 specialists, but with a

decreasing birth-rate, there is about 1 specialist to 300 children. The problem is that too many specialists are being trained.

IRELAND

Dr. Flood discussed the present situation in Ireland, and stated that a new Dentists Act was about to be introduced with a possibility of including Specialist Registration. There were 19 Practitioners with postgraduate degrees engaged in full time orthodontic practice.

BELGIUM

Dr. Gysel gave an account of the very complex situation in Belgium caused by the fact that there were three Governments which gave rise to differing requirements. The speciality is not officially, legally recognised and there were some 80 exclusive Practitioners.

The Universities organised the Orthodontic course which was of four years' duration, full time, but the separate Professors did not agree on the curriculum.

Fees were limited to a maximum, and all patients received a refund from the state, even those who are having treatment under private contract. The main problem at present was that there was disagreement with the state over the percentage of fee which would be refunded to the patient.

GERMANY

Dr. Bertzbach said that since 1972 all malocclusions were defined as diseases by law, and as such the State would pay 90% of cost. The payments were arranged by private insurance companies under the supervision of the Government. Post-Graduate training is variable. The problems in Germany are:

1. Decreasing patients, but increasing Orthodontists.
2. No restriction on type of practice so that General Dentistry is possible - practice is not exclusive.
3. Specialist requirements vary from one State to another.
4. There are four different titles.

From Germany the Specialist Orthodontists request that there should be:

1. Exklusive practice.
2. 3 year full time post-graduate course.
3. Designation of specialist by one title.

THE NETHERLANDS

Dr. Bijlstra had circulated a comprehensive document giving details of post-graduate training and lists of accredited specialists. In the Netherlands there has been an agreed training programme, and specialist recognition for some years. Orthodontists are limited to the number of cases under treatment, and the main problem would seem to be that of decreasing numbers of patients, and increasing orthodontists.

In 1981 examples of the fees for orthodontic treatment were:

Removeable appliances

1. 1089 dutch florins 1st year
2. 884 2nd year
3. 622 3rd year

Fixed appliances

1. 3915 1st year
2. 1599 2nd year
3. 618 3rd year

ITALY

Dr. Genone said that in Italy there were five post-graduate schools providing a three year full time course, and that there were about 120 orthodontic specialists.

There was no basic Dental qualification in Italy, so that first a medical degree had to be obtained (6 years) followed by Stomatology (3 years) and orthodontics (3 years).

The profession would like to simplify the system.

2. The Directory

It was agreed that this should be published on a 3 yearly basis.

3. Offices

It was agreed that voting for offices should be carried out every two years.