



European Regional Organisation of
the Federation of Dental Associations



ERO Statement, New Delhi, September 2014

Data protection as part of patient rights protection is a high ethical expression of the professional dental practice

Dental (medical) practice is significantly characterized by a particular mutual trust between patient and practitioner. The principal characteristic of this trust is the obligation of absolute confidentiality. It guarantees a high degree of protection of personal data of patients and healthcare professionals. It is a key obligation of key obligation of independent professional practice.

The same applies to the electronic storage and recording of our patients' data. The transfer of these data to the dentist or the various institutions to gain access to this information through information technology, require protective measures.

Based on the high ethical commitment to protect the most personal data of our patients, highest level of data protection has to be strived for when processing health data with particular consideration of the dentist profession. Personal rights of the individual and the protection of the dental practice must be guaranteed. First, transfer and storage of health data and patient information requires patient's consent.

Processing our patients' data has to be determined by a legal framework, oriented towards the criteria of data protection of the nation states. Its medical benefit must not be limited and it must be ensured, no practice that may arise from the interests does not occur.

This must not lead to any disproportionately high bureaucratic and financial burden in dental (medical) practice.

The ERO Plenary Session recommends that these principles on the protection of our patients' and their practitioners' personal rights and preservation of doctor-patient confidentiality as well as the independent provision of medical care be respected.

President: Dr. P. Riva (Switzerland) • President Elect: Anna Aulin (Poland) • Secretary: Secretary: Daniela Schenck (Austria) • Treasurer: Dr. Michael Fuchs (Germany) • Chairman: Prof. Stefan Götz (Germany)

ERO-Secretariat: Monika Lang, P.O. Box 664, CH-3000 Bern 7, Tel. -441 31 313 31 61 FAX: +41 31 313 31 61 Email: info@erodental.org

Bank account: CREDIT SUISSE AG, 3001 Bern, Switzerland - Account No. 1872503-32, IBAN CH14 0483 5187 2503 3200 0, BIC CRESCH330A in the name of European Regional Organisation of FDI, 1216 Cointrin, Switzerland