



FDI POLICY STATEMENT

Digital Dentistry

To be adopted by the FDI General Assembly: September 2025, Shanghai, China

CONTEXT

Digital dentistry integrates a wide array of technologies into dental care and management. These include digital devices for oral health monitoring, disease detection and risk assessment, patient education, and teledentistry. Additionally, it encompasses scanners and imaging tools to digitize oral structures, CAD/CAM systems for designing and manufacturing dental restorations, models, and appliances, virtual simulations for enhanced treatment planning and communication, computer-assisted surgical navigation, electronic health records, and artificial intelligence. The primary goal of employing these digital technologies is to enhance the quality, safety, and efficiency of oral health care.

SCOPE

This policy statement aims to encourage dental professionals, educators, researchers, and policymakers to embrace advancements and address the challenges of digital dentistry. It seeks to guide stakeholders in adopting digital technologies when beneficial, while responsibly and effectively mitigating risks for the benefit of patients, providers, and society.

DEFINITIONS

Digital Dentistry: The use of digital technologies, including digital Interventions, services, and applications, to address oral health challenges and needs.^{1,2}

PRINCIPLES

Digital dentistry should be evidence-based, outcome-driven, and of high quality, while remaining patient-centred, ethical, fair, and inclusive. Its adoption should be supported by robust governance that safeguards privacy and data security. Interoperability and sustainability are essential, and continuous professional development is needed to balance digital tools with clinical judgment.

28 **POLICY**

29 FDI recommends dental professionals, educators, researchers, manufacturers
30 and policymakers to:

- 31 • Align digital dentistry with primary healthcare and global oral health
32 strategies.
- 33 • Critically evaluate the evidence supporting digital dentistry applications.
- 34 • Support user-friendly technologies that are accessible to both providers
35 and patients alike, to promote equity and fairness of oral healthcare.
- 36 • Provide, participate in, and consider education and training opportunities to
37 employ digital technologies while retaining professional judgement and
38 responsible patient management.
- 39 • Develop and integrate a comprehensive curriculum on digital dentistry into
40 undergraduate, postgraduate, and professional dental education
41 programmes.
- 42 • Establish and comply with legal and regulatory frameworks that maintain
43 privacy, while fostering safe collection and storage of data, access to data
44 as the basis for many digital dentistry technologies, research and
45 development.
- 46 • Support the development and use of relevant standards to ensure the
47 quality, effectiveness, safety, interoperability, and applicability of digital
48 dentistry for the improvement of oral health.

49 **KEYWORDS**

50 Data, digital dentistry, digital health, interoperability, standards.

51 **DISCLAIMER**

52 The information in this policy was based on the best available scientific evidence
53 at the time. It may be interpreted to reflect prevailing cultural sensitivities and
54 socio-economic factors.

55 **REFERENCES**

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60 2021.