



SVENSKA ORTODONTIFÖRENINGEN
The Swedish Association of Orthodontists

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National Quality Program, SwedeQual

As a follow up to the EuroQual a subcommittee of the Swedish Association of Orthodontists produced a simplified version called SwedeQual. The purpose is to create a national database to refer to concerning selected parameters and be used as a quality control tool. A new subcommittee is now established to implement clinical trials and find ways of financing the project.

Urgent need for Orthodontists

During the last 2-3 years and the following 2-3 years there is a high number of orthodontists retiring. During 2004, 8 % of the active doctors reach the age of 65. This goes together with a high number of young teenagers during the same period of time that leads to an urgent need for specialists in orthodontics.

Postgraduate training program

There are eight centers for specialist training in orthodontics in Sweden. Four on faculties and four on special clinics with licensed programs for training according to the Erasmus program. To cover up the need for orthodontists in the country the different Public Dental Care organizations commonly make financial support to the programs and get a specified number of dentist trained. Also special arrangements can be made to buy a place in the three years training program at some of the centers.

Orthodontic Assistants

The Swedish Board for Health and Welfare has in the end of 2002 revised the rules regarding clinical work delegated to dental Hygienists and dental Nurses (Chair Assistants) increasing the supervising role of the dentist and identifying the tasks in a more strict and controlled way. The Board for the Swedish Association of Orthodontists has earlier this year (February 10th) met with the authorities to make clear how things should be managed in the interchange between the Doctors and the Assisting Staff Members.

Initiative has been taken from the Swedish Association of Orthodontists to get a uniform training program and an examination for Orthodontic Assistants in order to get some sort of certification by the Swedish Board for Health and Welfare.

The Swedish Association of Orthodontists

Lars Medin
Secretary

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