



BDA Executive Update 22.06.13

BDA launches 'Make a meal of it' campaign

Dental professionals across the UK are being urged to get involved in a new BDA [campaign](#) to reduce the harm done to children's oral health by taking sugary and acidic food and drink outside regular mealtimes.

The 'Make a meal of it' campaign, launched on 18 June, proposes restrictions on the availability and advertising of such products. The BDA is also supporting a specific tax on sugary, carbonated drinks. The campaign seeks to encourage supermarkets to restrict the availability of unhealthy foods at checkouts, cinemas to downsize their unhealthy food and drink offerings, and schools and hospitals to withdraw unhealthy food and drink from vending machines. The BDA is asking the dental profession to pinpoint local examples of outlets putting profits before health and help to challenge them. It is also seeking support for a [Government e-petition](#) it has launched which calls for a more rigorous approach to tackling the problem.

To get some momentum going, we are asking all recipients of Executive Update to sign the petition. You can do so by clicking [here](#).

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Make contract talks views known, BDA urges hospital dentists

Hospital dentists are being urged to speak up on any concerns they have as exploratory contract talks that may affect pay and working arrangements progress.

The talks, while currently still at a very early stage, may lead to new contracts for consultants and juniors. Discussions around arrangements for consultants are considering issues including a closer linking of pay progression and performance, the provision of services across a seven-day week and how to reward excellence at a high level. Moves to develop a new juniors' contract follow the publication of an NHS Employers' scoping report in December 2012. The Department of Health is seeking a full renegotiation of the current contract, which it has decreed is no longer fit for purpose. DH has made it clear that no additional funding can be made available in respect of either set of talks. The BMA is leading the discussions with NHS Employers on behalf of clinicians, with CCHDS representatives feeding dentists' concerns into BMA-administered reference groups.

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BDA Welsh Council Chair awarded MBE

Dr Sue Greening, Chair of Welsh Council, was made a Member of the British Empire (MBE) in the 2013 Queen's Birthday Honours. She receives her award for services to dentistry in the UK. Dr Greening served as President of the BDA from 2006-07. She works in Wales as Clinical Director at Gwent Community Dental Service.

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Training essentials

Two Training essentials courses took place on Friday 21 June. 'An IRMER course in dental radiography and radiation protection' attracted 23 delegates and was held at the Mercure hotel in Exeter. This training day helped attendees gain core CPD and was delivered by Jane Luker, Deputy Medical Director and Consultant in Dental and Maxillofacial Surgery, and Rebecca Davies, Consultant in Dental and Maxillofacial Radiology, both from Bristol Dental Hospital. Plandent Ltd exhibited during the refreshment breaks. Seventeen delegates attended 'Business planning and financial management for practice owners and managers' at the Aston Conference Centre in Birmingham. Andy McDougall from Spot on Business Planning delivered this regular course.

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