



Funded by the  
European Union

December 2025  
Issue No: 2

## Newsletter

# Welcome to the second issue of the PRUDENT Newsletter!

We are pleased to share the latest news from the **PRUDENT (Prioritization, incentives and Resource use for sUustainable DENTistry)** project.

The PRUDENT project aims to develop and implement an innovative and context-adaptive framework for optimized financing of oral care. This Horizon Europe funded project is based on a strong collaboration between partners from universities, public authorities and policymakers, civil society and patient organizations, health insurers, and health professionals. The research is bundled in seven work packages and the findings seek to make oral health care more equitable and sustainable across Europe.

2025 has been a highly successful year for the PRUDENT project. Significant milestones were achieved, objectives were met, and the project made progress across all workpackages. The project has now passed the midpoint of its overall duration, providing a solid foundation for the remaining phase and setting the stage for continued success.

In this issue, you will find highlights from recent events, conferences, and published research.

We encourage you to share this newsletter with others who might be interested.

Stay connected with us and [click here](#) to subscribe to the PRUDENT Project Newsletter 



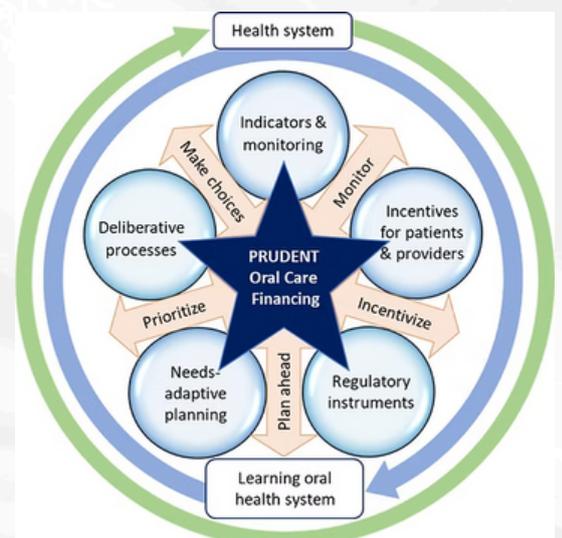
 [www.prudentproject.eu](http://www.prudentproject.eu) 

### Collaboration:

The PRUDENT project is a collaboration with partners from Denmark, England, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, and Portugal.

### Project Duration:

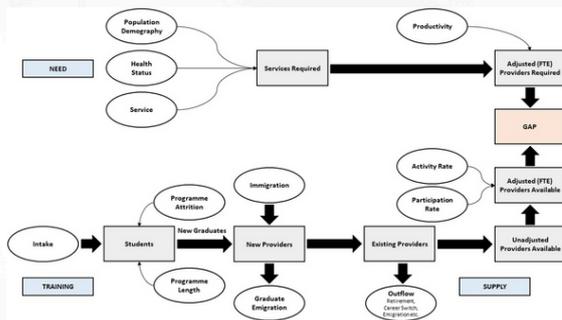
January 2023 to December 2027



# Sharing Our Research

## Case study for the Universal (Oral) Health Coverage reform in France @EADPH – October 2024, Heraklion (Greece) 🇬🇷

In October 2024, Stéphanie Tubert-Jeannin (Clermont-Ferrand University, France) presented results at the European Association of Dental Public Health (EADPH) annual meeting. The presentation highlighted findings from a case study evaluating France's "100% santé" reform for Universal (Oral) Health Coverage, implemented in 2019. [Click here](#) to see the presentation.

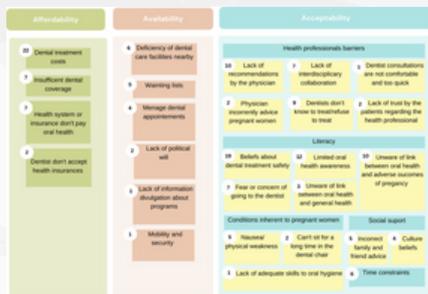
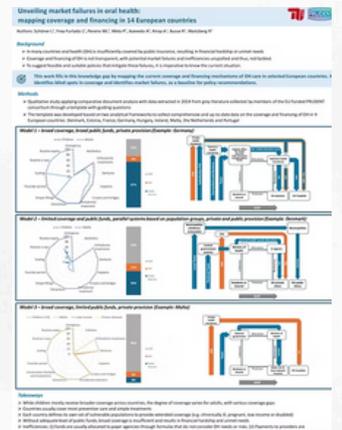


## Oral health workforce planning for the future in the Netherlands @Human Resources for Health – November 2024 (Publication) 📄

A dynamic model was developed to project oral health workforce supply and needs in the Netherlands from 2022 to 2050. Scenarios included morbidity trends, changes in skill-mix (e.g., greater use of oral hygienists), and education modifications. The model highlights the importance of adaptive workforce strategies aligned with Universal Health Coverage goals. [Click here](#) to see the full article (Janssen et al. 2024).

## Mapping market failures in oral health coverage @dggö – March 2025, Paderborn (Germany) 🇩🇪

Lukas Schöner (TU Berlin, Germany) presented findings on coverage and financing mechanisms across 11 European countries at the German Health Economics Association (dggö). Using a methodological framework, the study identified critical gaps and potential market failures within oral health systems, laying groundwork for evidence-based policy. [Click here](#) to see the poster.

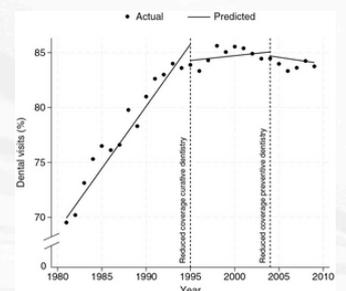


## Oral healthcare access during pregnancy @BMC Public Health – April 2025 (Publication) 📄

This systematic review explores self-reported barriers that limit oral healthcare utilization during pregnancy. The analysis identifies persistent access barriers across availability, affordability, and acceptability. [Click here](#) to see the article (Frey-Furtado et al. 2025).

## Dental coverage reforms in the Netherlands @Journal of Dental Research – May 2025 (Publication) 📄

The study assessed reduced public oral health coverage in the Netherlands between 1981 and 2019. Results showed a decline in dental visits after the 1995 reform, challenging policy narratives and emphasizing the importance of coverage reforms. [Click here](#) to see the article (Sarroukh et al. 2025).



**NHS dentistry and health economics @Craniofacial Society of Great Britain and Ireland – May 2025, Newcastle (UK)** 🇬🇧

Professor Chris Vernazza (Newcastle University, UK) delivered a keynote lecture entitled “Can we fix NHS dentistry and can health economics help?”, sparked discussions on the future role of NHS dentistry and challenges in providing equitable access to care.



**Universal coverage reform in France @IADR Congress – June 2025, Barcelona (Spain)** 🇪🇸

Stéphanie Tubert-Jeannin presented results from an evaluation of the 100% sante reform that expanded oral health coverage in France using national insurance data. Results showed increased access to prosthetic dental care, especially among older patients, despite challenges posed by COVID-19. [Click here](#) to see the poster.

**Shaping evidence-informed policy in oral health economics @IHEA – July 2025, Bali (Indonesia)** 🇮🇩

PRUDENT researchers participated in multiple presentations at the International Health Economics Association Congress:

Jip Janssen (Radboud University Medical Center, Netherlands) presented findings on oral health workforce modelling for the Netherlands (Work Package 5). [Click here](#) to read the article.

Ziade Sarroukh (Radboud University Medical Center, Netherlands) presented on the political economy of oral health policy, resource allocation, and reduced public coverage in the Netherlands, challenging prevailing narratives and contributing to global policy debates.



**Identifying indicators on oral health system performance @DGSPM – September 2025, Berlin (Germany)** 🇩🇪

At the Annual Conference of the German Society for Social Medicine and Prevention (DGSPM), Katharina Achstetter (TU Berlin, Germany) presented results on identifying indicators to evaluate oral health system performance across EU countries. The presentation emphasized how indicators can assess access, quality of care, and health outcomes, reveal inequalities, and support evidence-based policy and cross-country comparisons. [Click here](#) to see the slides.

**Integrating Oral Healthcare into Maternal Health @EADPH – September 2025, Rome (Italy)** 🇮🇹

Leonor Frey-Furtado (Universidade do Porto, Portugal) presented a country comparison on “Integrating Oral Healthcare into Maternal Health Services in Europe” at the European Association of Dental Public Health (EADPH) congress.



**PRUDENT annual general meeting – 15-17 October 2025, Malta 🇲🇹**

The annual general meeting of the PRUDENT project 2025 was held in Malta hosted by Pauline Vassallo and her team from the Ministry for Health and Active Ageing (Government of Malta). The project consortium shared their progress and results of the workpages, presented the upcoming steps, discussed possibilities for improving the impact and targeting the outlet of the derived recommendations, and brought together the findings across the overall project in fruitful exchanges. Additionally, the meeting was completed by an inspiring keynote from Gauden Galea on “Merchant or Missionary: Towards Sustainable Dentistry”.



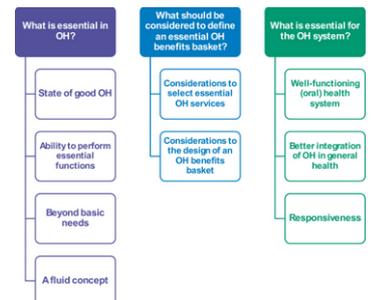
**Round Table @EPH 2025 – November 2025, Helsinki (Finland) 🇫🇮**

At the 18th European Public Health Conference (EPH), a round table titled “Placing European patients and providers at the center of decision-making in oral health policies” was chaired by Ruth Waitzberg and Pauline Vassallo. The session featured contributions from Katharina Achstetter, Béatrice Durvy, Ave Pöld, and Stefan Listl, showcasing innovative, people-centered approaches highlighting how patients and providers can be directly involved in shaping oral health policymaking across Europe. Topics covered defining essential oral health benefit baskets across the EU, social participation in prioritizing services within insurance packages, skill-mix and workforce planning, and consensus-building on system performance indicators. [Click here](#) to see the presentation slides.



**Conceptualising Essential Oral Health Benefits Baskets @Health Expectations – November 2025 (Publication) 📄**

A qualitative study explored the general population’s and experts’ perspectives on what ‘essential’ means in the European oral health context. Although people’s expectations vary, they remain realistic, emphasising the importance of better integrating oral health into general health and actively involving the general population in decision-making. [Click here](#) to read the article (Durvy et al. 2025).



**Financing and coverage of oral health services @CED meeting – November 2025, Brussels (Belgium) 🇧🇪**

Professor Chris Vernazza (Newcastle University, UK) presented key insights and results for financing and coverage of oral health services across Europe at the general meeting of the Council of European Dentists (CED). CED were keen to continue to work together as the project progressed.

For more information, visit our website at [www.prudentproject.eu](http://www.prudentproject.eu), contact us via email at [prudentprojecteu@gmail.com](mailto:prudentprojecteu@gmail.com), or follow us on [LinkedIn](#) for the latest updates and insights.

# Project partners

Radboud University Medical Center (Radboudumc)  
 Syddansk Universitet (SDU)  
 Technische Universität Berlin (TUB)  
 University College Cork (UCC)  
 Université Clermont Auvergne (UCA)  
 Instituto de Saude Publica da Universidade do Porto (ISPUP)  
 Ministry for Health and Active Ageing (Government of Malta)  
 Universitetet i Oslo (UiO)  
 Stichting Lygature  
 Semmelweis Egyetem (SU)  
 Estonian Dental Association (EDA)  
 University of Newcastle Upon Tyne (UNEW)  
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