



Contents

- Members are reminded to accurately capture professional numbers when completing SADJ MCQs and registering for events
- Key Updates on the Dental Amalgam Phase-Out: FDI Highlights 2034 Deadline and Flexibility Measures
- SADA Membership renewal reminders for 2026
- FDI Smile grant - Call for applications

Date of circulation: 14 November 2025

MEMBERS ARE REMINDED TO ACCURATELY CAPTURE PROFESSIONAL NUMBERS WHEN COMPLETING SADJ MCQs AND REGISTERING FOR EVENTS

To ensure accurate data extraction and successful submission to the HPCSA, members are reminded of the following:

- Ensure **the Professional Number is entered correctly, using the uppercase prefix “DP”** (e.g., *DP0012345*).
- **Prefixes used for Professional Numbers:**
 - **DP** - Dentist
 - **MP** - Medical Practitioner
 - **DA** - Dental Assistant
 - **OH** - Oral Hygienist
 - **TT** - Dental Therapist
- Use the number **“0” (zero)** and **not the letter “O”** when entering the professional number.
- **Do not enter a practice number or cell phone number in the Professional Number field.**

Using the above guidelines will help prevent submission errors and ensure that members' CPD activities are processed efficiently and without delay.

Dear Members

KEY UPDATES ON THE DENTAL AMALGAM PHASE-OUT: FDI HIGHLIGHTS 2034 DEADLINE AND FLEXIBILITY MEASURES

This notice serves to provide you with a crucial update from the FDI World Dental Federation regarding the global transition away from dental amalgam. Understanding these international developments is essential as they directly inform national policy and our professional practice.

1. Clarity on the 2034 Phase-Out and Exemption

The FDI has provided important context for the Minamata Convention's provisions on dental amalgam. The agreed **2034 phase-out date**, coupled with a **practitioner-based**

exemption, is designed with global equity in mind.

- **Flexibility is Key:** This approach recognises the vast differences in healthcare systems, infrastructure, and economic realities between countries. A one-size-fits-all immediate ban was deemed impractical and potentially harmful.
- **Preventing Inequality:** The primary goal of this flexible timeline is to **avoid widening existing oral health inequalities**. It ensures that populations in regions reliant on amalgam are not abruptly left without a safe, effective, and affordable restorative option.

This means the phase-out is a managed transition, not an immediate cessation, allowing for the gradual adoption of alternative materials and techniques worldwide.

2. Minamata Convention: Current Status and Future Outlook

The Minamata Convention on Mercury, the driving force behind this transition, continues to gain global momentum.

- **As of September 2025, the Convention has 153 Parties.**
- The next critical meeting, the **Seventh Conference of the Parties (COP7)**, is scheduled for **June 2027**. This meeting will be particularly significant as it marks the **tenth anniversary of the Convention**, and we can expect further discussions on the implementation and progress of the amalgam phase-out.

What This Means for You as a Dental Professional

While South Africa has determined its own specific regulatory timeline in alignment with the Minamata Convention and as communicated by SADA, the international direction is clear. The FDI's guidance underscores the importance of:

1. **Staying Informed:** Continue to follow updates from SADA and the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) regarding national guidelines.
2. **Skill Development:** Proactively enhance your skills and knowledge in the use of alternative restorative materials (such as composite resins, glass ionomers, and ceramics).
3. **Adopting Best Practices:** Familiarise yourself with modern adhesive dentistry techniques and invest in the necessary equipment to ensure successful, long-lasting restorations without amalgam.

Looking Ahead

SADA remains committed to keeping you at the forefront of this global shift. We will continue to engage with national regulators and provide our members with the educational resources, workshops, and support needed to navigate this transition smoothly and maintain the highest standards of patient care. Part of this is the agreement with DRI-SA, as well as the information we are providing about alternatives for separators in this SADAríte.

SADA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDERS FOR 2026

- SADA Member renewal notifications have been distributed via email
- Please check your Spam or Junk folder if you do not see a notification.
- Ask your ISP to release any email received from the glueup.com domain
- You should have received an invoice with a link for your payment convenience.

Immediate Online Payment

- Use the "PAY NOW" button in the email to process your payment securely by Credit card.
- Debit Order (Existing Members) - NO ACTION NEEDED EXCEPT to select your benevolent fund contribution should you wish to donate.

- If you are already on a debit order, your 2026 renewal will continue seamlessly under the same terms and schedule as 2025.
- First deduction dates: 15 January 2026 or 31 January 2026.
- Debit order administration fee: R44.50, included in your monthly amount.

New Debit Order Setup

For members who are not currently on a debit order but wish to set one up, please contact Lindiwe Sekhoahla at sadamembership@sada.co.za to receive a mandate form.

Please note that you need a separate debit order mandate for SADA and Dental Protection.

Important Bank Details

For EFT, please use the following updated SADA banking details:

Bank: Investec Bank Limited

Branch Code: 58 01 05

Account Number: 10011847744

Reference: Your invoice number (Very important for quick allocation)

NOTE: PREVIOUS BANK ACCOUNTS ARE NO LONGER ACTIVE.

Send your proof of payment to membershipadmin@sada.co.za

Due Date for Membership Renewal

To ensure uninterrupted access to all SADA member benefits, please pay your SADA membership renewal invoice by 1 January 2026 unless you're on our monthly debit order plan.

**If you have questions or need assistance, please call the SADA offices
on +27 (0)11 484 5288**

Renewing your SADA membership ensures continued access to exclusive professional resources, advocacy, and support that help you thrive in your dental career. Keep an eye on your inbox and renew early to enjoy uninterrupted membership benefits.

Thank you again for your support and commitment. We look forward to another year of serving you and strengthening our profession together.



FDI SMILE GRANT - CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

FDI is pleased to announce that the **Smile Grant** is now accepting applications to support oral health initiatives.

Each year, this grant promotes preventive oral care through innovative projects led by recognized FDI member National Dental Associations (NDAs).

Since 2016, with the support of Colgate, the Smile Grant has enabled impactful projects across multiple countries, advancing oral health education and awareness in diverse communities.

Eligibility

- Projects must be led by FDI Regular or Associate Members
- Projects must have been active for at least one year and continue for at least another year
- NDAs that have received the Smile Grant in the past two years are not eligible to apply

Grant Award

Two outstanding projects will each receive CHF 5,000, as selected by the Smile Grant Committee.

Application Deadline: 1 February 2026

[Click here to learn more and apply.](#)

Make a meaningful impact on oral health in your community.

[Apply now for the FDI Smile Grant!](#)

Yours in Oral Health

KC Makhubele

SADA Chief Executive Officer



1st Annual Sports Dentistry Conference

hosted by the

SA Sports Dentistry Association

Date: 5-6 December 2025

Venue: Stellenbosch Academy of Sport
Stellenbosch
Cape Town

[Register](#)



Powered by Glue Up

All-in-one CRM Software for Growing Communities