



Official Erasmus+ Project Card

## Pain-Free Dental Treatment (PaFein+) Teaching Model and Its Effect on Dental Treatment of Children

The project, titled '**Pain-Free Dental Treatment (PaFein+) Teaching Model and Its Effect on Dental Treatment of Children**' with project number **2023-1-TR01-KA220-HED-000155608**, is funded under the Erasmus+ Program for Cooperation Partnerships in Higher Education. It will be conducted in collaboration with **Marmara University, Istanbul Kent University, the Romanian Pediatric Dentistry Association, and Bambino Gesu Children's Hospital** in Italy.

**PaFein+** project strives to provide a more comfortable and pain-free dental treatment experience for children and will last for 36 months. It aims to develop a new and holistic curriculum for dental practitioners, pediatric dentistry specialization, and PhD students, as well as educators.

The field of Minimal Invasive Dentistry (MID), a revolutionary concept, is broad, including the detection of diseases as early as possible, identification of risk factors (caries risk assessment) and implementation of preventive strategies. The curriculum includes supervised clinical practice with a focus on diagnosing, preventing, and managing caries using minimally invasive strategies. Clinical practice is transitioning from operative approaches to non-operative and less invasive carious lesion management, delaying entry to, and slowing down, the restorative cycle by preserving tooth tissue and retaining teeth long-term.

The **PaFein+** Teaching Model aims to elevate the standard of dental education by emphasizing patient comfort and enhancing the skill set of future dental practitioners.

Under the new curriculum to be developed within the **PaFein+** project, seminars and workshops will be organized on principles of nonpharmacological behavior guidance in pediatric patients, along with minimal invasive dentistry approaches and pain-free local anesthesia techniques.

The **PaFein+** teaching model is expected to reduce the reliance on pharmacological approaches (such as N2O sedation and general anesthesia) in pediatric dental treatments and decrease carbon emissions associated with the procurement and usage of these pharmacological agents, as part of green dentistry.

A website for **PaFein+** will be created for dissemination activities. Presentations and promotions will be made at national and international congresses of pediatric dentistry associations, mainstream media outlets, and social media platforms.

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