

RTÉ Investigates  
RTÉ  
Donnybrook  
Dublin 4  
28/06/2023

**STRICTLY PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL – ADDRESSEE ONLY**

Mr David O’Flynn  
Registrar  
Dental Council of Ireland  
57 Merrion Square  
Dublin 2

Dear Mr O’Flynn,

The RTÉ Investigations Unit is currently researching a report regarding the activities in Ireland of a Portuguese orthodontist called Dr Andreia Almeida Funico.

Please see below several press queries relating to same:

1. Contrary to the Dentists Act 1985, RTÉ Investigates is aware that over a period of years Dr Andreia Funico sought work in multiple dental clinics here without being registered with the Dental Council of Ireland. How do you respond?
2. RTÉ is further aware Dr Funico secured work in several of these dental clinics with personnel in a number of the businesses being aware Dr Funico was practicing without registration. As the profession’s regulatory body, how do you respond?
3. What action has or does the Dental Council propose taking against these dental clinics?
4. Can you confirm Dr Funico made repeated failed applications for registration with the Dental Council of Ireland?
5. Can the Dental Council confirm if all patients unknowingly treated by Dr Funico while she was operating as an unregistered orthodontist (including those who received maxillofacial surgeries) have been informed of same?
6. Has the Dental Council conducted a review of Dr Funico’s work while practicing at Irish dental clinics?
7. RTÉ Investigates is aware Dr Funico assumed a number of different identities while seeking employment/working in Ireland, including that of another registered orthodontist practicing here. How do you respond?
8. Can you confirm earlier this month Dr Funico provided the High Court with an undertaking not to practice dentistry here while awaiting a Fitness to Practice hearing?
9. When will the Fitness to Practice hearing take place?
10. RTÉ Investigates is aware several reports were made to the Dental Council of Ireland concerning Dr Funico during autumn 2022. Why therefore did it take until June 2023 for

the Dental Council to act, thereby permitting Dr Funico to continue practicing here in the interim period without registration?

11. RTÉ is further aware Dr Funico was circulating fraudulent documentation while seeking employment/working in Ireland including false registration certificates from the Dental Council of Ireland and documentation purporting to be from the Portuguese Dental Council. How do you respond?
12. Has the Dental Council of Ireland made the Portuguese Dental Council or indeed fellow regulatory bodies in any other country in which it has knowledge Dr Funico has worked aware of ongoing proceedings concerning her in Ireland?

These are matters which are clearly in the public interest.

Please respond to the above queries, using the same numbering sequence, by our deadline of 5pm on Monday 03 July 2023.

Yours sincerely,



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Aoife Hegarty

Reporter  
RTÉ Investigates

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