

Dear Colleague

AMENDMENT NO. 149 TO THE STATEMENT OF DENTAL REMUNERATION

Summary

1. This letter advises NHS Boards and Practitioner Services of the publication of an amendment to the Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR), Amendment No. 149, which takes effect from 1 February 2021.

Action for NHS Boards

2. NHS Boards should ensure that:
- they urgently issue the Memorandum to this letter to all dentists and dental bodies corporate on their dental list;
 - they have read and are aware of the new arrangements in the attached Memorandum, particularly those outlined at paragraph 12.

14 June 2021

Addresses

For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards

Director, Practitioner Services

For information

Chief Executive,
NHS National Services Scotland

Chief Executive,
NHS Education for Scotland

Directors of Dentistry

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Action for Practitioner Services

3. The Memorandum advises NHS dental contractors of the move to a flat-rate payment for maternity, paternity, adoptive leave, and long term sickness payments.

4. Practitioner Services must, where requested to do so by a NHS contractor in receipt of these payments on 1 February 2021, recalculate the amount of payment the dentist is entitled to using the new arrangements.

4.1 The dentist will be entitled to either the recalculated amount or to continue receiving the existing payment amount, whichever is greatest.

4.2 Where a recalculated amount is payable this should be backdated to the start of the claim.

4.3 Any recalculated amounts payable should be paid at the next available Schedule date.

Yours sincerely,

TOM FERRIS
Chief Dental Officer

**DENTISTS/DENTAL BODIES CORPORATE
NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE
GENERAL DENTAL SERVICES**

AMENDMENT NO. 149 TO THE STATEMENT OF DENTAL REMUNERATION

Background

1. Under the existing arrangements the calculation of the amount of maternity, paternity, adoptive leave, and long term sickness payments that a person may be eligible for is based on the contractor's average earnings during a test period. For maternity, paternity and adoptive leave payments, there is a 12 month test period which begins 21 months before the date of confinement, date of birth or date of adoption respectively. For long term sickness the test period is the two year period immediately prior to the period of sickness. The test period for these allowances now coincides with payments under the emergency arrangements. NHS dental contractors who have been in receipt of COVID top-up payments since the beginning of the pandemic, and are eligible to claim these allowances, could find that these payments may be lower than they might have otherwise received before the pandemic emergency arrangements.

2. A number of changes have consequently been made to the Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR) on the amount of maternity, paternity, adoptive leave, and long term sickness payments that NHS dental contractors may receive. Full details of the changes are outlined below.

3. A copy of Amendment No. 149 to the SDR can also be viewed at: <https://www.scottishdental.org/>.

Determination V (Maternity Payments, Paternity Payments and Adoptive Leave Payments)

Amount of Payments

4. A test period will no longer be used to calculate the amount of these payments.

5. Where a NHS dental contractor is eligible for these payments, the amount payable per week will be a flat rate payment up to a maximum of £1,399.00 per week, per dentist, which will be pro-rated by the contractor's whole time equivalent (WTE) hours and their NHS commitment level.

6. For example, if a contractor normally provides 0.8 WTE (defined by the number of contracted hours in providing dentistry in a typical working week of 37.5 hours) and their NHS commitment level (defined by the proportion of their typical working week spent providing general dental services) is 64% then the amount payable would be calculated as follows: £1,399.99 * 0.8 * 0.64, resulting in a payment of £716.29 per week.

Conditions of Eligibility

7. In the case of maternity and adoptive leave payments, the conditions of eligibility have been updated to include a requirement for the NHS dental contractor to transfer all care of their patients, including patient registrations, to the contractor or deputy who will be taking over responsibility for their patients during the period of leave.

8. No maternity or adoptive leave payments will be payable to the NHS dental contractor for any week in the pay period during which there is any activity on their list number. All activity should go through on the list number of the contractor who is taking responsibility for the patients during the period of leave.

Claims for Payment

9. Claims should be made using a claim form provided by Practitioner Services. The claim form can be accessed at: <https://tinyurl.com/f39tn435>.

10. NHS dental contractors should complete all sections of the claim form and ensure that they have read and understood the declaration before submitting the form. Proof to support a claim for payment does not need to be included with the claim form but must be provided if requested to do so by Practitioner Services.

Failure to Return to Work

11. Dentists will be required to repay all payments if they do not return to dental practice to provide general dental services for a minimum of 30 calendar days within 1 year of the date of confinement or date of adoption.

12. Where a dentist is unable to return to work due to exceptional circumstances the Health Board may waive repayment of these payments.

Determination VI (Long Term Sickness Payments)

Amount of Payment

13. A test period will no longer be used to calculate the amount of these payments.

14. Where a NHS dental contractor is eligible for these payments, the amount payable per week will be a flat rate payment up to a maximum of £349.00 per week, which will be pro-rated by the contractor's WTE hours and their NHS commitment level.

15. For example, if a contractor normally provides 0.8 WTE and their NHS commitment level (defined by the proportion of their typical working week spent providing general dental services) is 64% then the amount payable would be calculated as follows: £349.99 * 0.8 * 0.64, resulting in a payment of £178.69 per week.

16. Claims should be made using a claim form provided by Practitioner Services. The claim form can be accessed at: <https://tinyurl.com/f39tn435>.

17. NHS dental contractors should complete all sections of the claim form and ensure that they have read and understood the declaration before submitting the form. Proof to support a claim for payment does not need to be included with the claim form but must be provided if requested to do so by Practitioner Services.

Effective Date

18. Amendment No. 149 will come into effect from 1 February 2021.

19. Any NHS dental contractor who is already in receipt of maternity, paternity, adoptive leave or long term sickness payments on 1 February 2021 will be entitled to have their payments recalculated. Where a recalculation is carried out the contractor will either continue to receive the existing payment amount or the recalculated amount, whichever is greatest.

20. Where a recalculated amount is payable it will be backdated to the start of the claim.

21. If you were in receipt of these payments at 1 February 2021 and would like your payments recalculated under these new arrangements you should complete the claim form provided by Practitioner Services.

Enquiries

Any enquiries arising from this Memorandum should be taken up with your NHS Board.

Primary Care Directorate
14 June 2021