

Dear Colleague

DENTAL NURSES SURVEY

Summary

1. The Memorandum to this letter advises dentists and dental bodies corporate (DBC) of a forthcoming survey on the recruitment and retention of dental nurses.

Action

2. NHS Boards are asked to issue the Memorandum to this letter to all dentists and DBCs on their dental lists.

Yours sincerely,

TOM FERRIS
Chief Dental Officer (Interim)

4 April 2019

Addresses

For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards

Director, Practitioner Services

For information

Chief Executive,
NHS National Services Scotland

Chief Executive,
NHS Education for Scotland

Interim Directors of Dentistry

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

DENTAL NURSES SURVEY

Summary

1. This Memorandum advises of a forthcoming survey on the recruitment and retention of dental nurses which will be issued through Practitioner Services.

Background

2. The Scottish Government monitors the recruitment and retention of dentists providing NHS general dental services in Scotland to ensure that there are sufficient numbers of dentists to allow those patients who wish to register with a NHS dentist to do so. We recognise that the high quality service that dentists are able to provide their patients is supported by members of the wider dental team.

3. However, there is little information available on the wider dental workforce. In order to help address this lack of information we have developed a short survey, in conjunction with the BDA (Scotland), to gain a better understanding of recruitment and retention of dental nurses.

Participating in the Survey

4. Practitioner Services will email a link to the survey to all designated dentists. It should take around 5-10 minutes to complete the survey and it will remain available until 5th May.

5. The survey is not compulsory but any information you can provide would be helpful and will be treated in confidence.

Enquiries

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

Scottish Government Population Health Directorate
4 April 2019