



Dear Colleague

FEES FOR NEW DETERMINATION I

1. This letter advises of the fees for the new Determination I.

Action for Boards

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

Yours sincerely,

TOM FERRIS
Chief Dental Officer

27 July 2023

Addresses

For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards

Directors of Dentistry

For information

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

FEES FOR NEW DETERMINATION I

Background

1. As you will be aware, Scottish Government has committed to implementing NHS dental payment reform from 1 November 2023 and we are pleased to now be able to share the relevant part of the new Determination I of the Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR) and the associated fees.
2. The intention is to provide a modernised approach which will enable dentists to have greater clinical freedom in a high trust, low bureaucracy model. The new Determination I introduces 45 items for general dentistry¹, making it simpler for both dental teams and patients to understand.
3. This has been developed through engagement with the dental profession, the CDO Advisory Group and key stakeholders. We have taken full cognisance of relevant guidance to ensure that it will support dentists moving forward to provide high quality NHS dental care for their patients which meets clinical best practice standards.

Overview of the New Determination I

4. The new Determination I presents a reduced suite of 45 items for general dentistry, whilst still retaining clinical discretion to provide a full range of care and treatment to NHS patients (a draft of the relevant part is provided as a separate attachment so that NHS dental teams have initial sight of the precise wording, including any provisos). The new treatment items will make the SDR simpler to use as fewer codes will need to be claimed to provide a course of treatment, and provisos for each item are now clearly stated within the descriptions, making it easier to see when an item can or cannot be claimed.
5. All items of treatment in the new Determination I, unless stated otherwise, can be claimed for both adults and children when clinically appropriate. There will be no distinction between the treatment available to registered and unregistered patients, therefore occasional items been removed. Discretionary items have also been removed.
6. The table below outlines the fees for each of the new treatment items and includes the 6% pay award increase. A short summary of the key elements of the new Determination I is provided at Annex A.

Item and Treatment		Fee
Section I - Oral Health Examination and Diagnosis		
1-(a)	Extensive Clinical Examination	£ 19.60
1-(b)	Review Examination	£ 9.80
1-(c)	Unscheduled care assessment and treatment	£ 19.60

¹ Orthodontic items have not been reviewed as part of this process and the item 32 items have been retained.

1-(d)	Intraoral Radiograph	£ 6.90
1-(e)	Extraoral Radiograph	£ 16.95
1-(f)	Study Models (per set)	£ 33.90
Section II - Preventive Care and Periodontal Treatment		
2-(a)	Enhanced preventive advice and treatment (including ChildSmile)	£ 19.60
2-(b)	Fissure sealants (per tooth)	£ 12.70
2-(c)	Periodontal assessment and treatment for patients with a BPE of 3 or 4 and/or interdental bone loss (standard)	£ 40.30
2-(d)	Periodontal assessment and treatment for patients with a BPE of 3 or 4 and/or interdental bone loss (enhanced)	£ 40.30
2-(e)	Additional Periodontal Appointment Supplement	£ 25.45
Section III - Restorative Treatment		
3-(a)	Filling (single surface)	£ 15.90
3-(b)	Filling (2 surfaces)	£ 22.25
3-(c)	Filling (3 or more surfaces)	£ 33.90
3-(d)	Composite Supplement	£ 10.60
3-(e)	Posterior Composite Supplement	£ 33.90
3-(f)	Endodontic Treatment (Incisor/Canine/Lower Premolar)	£ 118.70
3-(g)	Endodontic Treatment (Upper Premolar)	£ 144.15
3-(h)	Endodontic Treatment (Molar)	£ 191.85
3-(i)	Pulpotomy	£ 28.60
3-(j)	Root Canal Re-Treatment Supplement	£ 55.10
3-(k)	Internal Bleaching (per tooth)	£ 80.55
Section IV - Extra Coronal Restorations		
4-(a)	Stainless Steel Crown and Provisional Crown/Bridge	£ 45.60
4-(b)	Crown Placement	£ 186.56
4-(c)	Post and/or Core retention for crowns or bridges	£ 45.60
4-(d)	Inlay/Onlay Placement	£ 186.56
4-(e)	Replacement Veneer	£ 186.56
4-(f)	Conventional Bridge (per unit)	£ 167.50
4-(g)	Resin Retained Bridge (per unit)	£ 96.45
4-(h)	Recementing of a Resin Retained Bridge	£ 42.40
Section V - Extractions		
5-(a)	Extraction	£ 36.05
5-(b)	Surgical Extraction	£ 68.90
5-(c)	Advanced Surgical Dentistry	£ 94.34
Section VI - Sedation		
6-(a)	Sedation Assessment	£ 37.10
6-(b)	Sedation	£ 111.30

Section VII - Protheses		
7-(a)	Acrylic Denture (partial)	
		1-3 teeth £ 146.30
		4-8 teeth £ 164.30
		9+ teeth £ 177.02
7-(b)	Acrylic Denture (full) (per denture)	£ 183.40
7-(c)	Cobalt Chrome Denture	
		1-3 teeth £ 273.50
		4-8 teeth £ 336.00
		9+ teeth £ 356.15
7-(d)	Special Tray	£ 31.80
7-(e)	Addition, hard reline, or repair of a denture	£ 63.60
7-(f)	Soft reline of a denture	£ 84.80
7-(g)	Acid Etched Splint	£ 64.65
7-(h)	Laboratory made soft splint/fluoride tray/trauma retainer/ external bleaching tray (per appliance)	£ 68.90
7-(i)	Laboratory made hard splint	£ 144.15
Section VIII - Domiciliary Visit and Recalled Attendance		
8-	Domiciliary Visit and recalled attendance	£ 89.05

Moving to the new system

7. The new Determination I will be published as an amendment to the Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR) in advance of the implementation date. The new Determination I will be effective from 1 November 2023 and all new courses of treatment opened on, or after, that date should be under the new SDR.

Open Courses of Treatment

8. Any active courses of treatment opened before 1 November 2023, but not completed must remain open until the course of treatment is complete. These claims should then be submitted for payment in the normal manner, and they will be paid at the SDR rate relevant to the date of acceptance of the treatment.

Incomplete Treatment/Balancing Fees

9. For certain items of treatment an incomplete fee can be claimed where a patient stops attending for at least 2 complete calendar months. Incomplete fees will now be paid at 70% of the item fee, rather than having different fees for different stages. If a patient later returns for treatment then a balancing fee of 30% of the item fee will be paid upon completion of the course of treatment.

10. For courses of treatment where an incomplete fee has been claimed prior to 1 November 2023, if the patient returns after 1 November then the balancing fee can be claimed.

Prior Approval

11. The prior approval limit for courses of treatment opened on, or after, 1 November 2023 will be increased to £600.

In addition, for courses of treatment started on, or after 1 November 2023, the following items will no longer require prior approval:

- composite fillings for people who are pregnant or have given birth in the last 12 months;
- splints; and
- internal bleaching.

Patient Charge

12. Patients who pay for their treatment will continue to pay 80% of the cost up to a maximum of £384 per course of treatment.

Orthodontics

13. Orthodontic items have not been reviewed as part of this stage of payment reform and claims should continue to be submitted using the existing item 32. However, as the general examination items have changed, the new extensive clinical examination item should be used to provide an orthodontic diagnostic assessment from 1 November 2023.

Educational Materials

14. We are developing an FAQ for the new Determination I. If you have questions about the new SDR please email determination1@gov.scot and these will be addressed within the FAQ. Educational guides and webinars to support dental teams in using the new Determination I will also be available and will be published on Turas in early Autumn 2023.

Review of the New SDR

15. The new Determination I is a significant change to the payment system for NHS dentistry and we intend to review its performance following implementation. We will provide more information in due course on how this will be undertaken.

Systems Suppliers

16. Work is ongoing with Practice Management Systems (PMS) to update practice management systems. Technical details regarding the rollout of updates for practice management systems will be provided directly by individual PMS suppliers in due course.

Enquiries

17. Any enquiries arising from this memorandum should be sent to: determination1@gov.scot

Primary Care Directorate
27 July 2023

Key Elements of the new Determination I

Examinations

We have made a number of changes to examinations which will enable dentists to be flexible and responsive to the oral health needs of their patients.

An extensive clinical examination can be provided to both adult and child patients once per year. This will be a detailed exam which will give the dentist the opportunity to update their patient's medical and dental history and carry out a soft tissue exam, a BPE, a TMJ assessment; as well as charting missing/present teeth, existing restorations, periodontal risk/status, oral hygiene status, and relevant non-carious tooth surface loss. Based on the patient's dental history, dentists will be able to use their clinical discretion to recommend a recall frequency of 12, 18 or 24 months for the next extensive clinical exam.

However, we recognise that some patients will need to be seen more frequently and have therefore introduced a review examination. This will allow dentists to see patients for clinical review between extensive clinical examinations for a range of circumstances, such as monitoring suspicious lesions or periodontal status. Review exams can be provided as often as clinically necessary and there is no time bar on their frequency.

We have also included an unscheduled care assessment and treatment item, recognising that the provision of urgent and unscheduled care can often be disruptive for dentists and involve treatment that cannot currently be claimed. This item will be able to be claimed when a patient needs to be seen for unscheduled care and there is no other treatment item that can be claimed, such as, treating a perio abscess, ortho problems, or incision and drainage. It will also be able to be claimed alongside another examination or treatment item if unscheduled care is required.

Periodontal Care and Treatment

We are conscious that it can be difficult to provide periodontal care which meets clinical standards within the current SDR, which is why in the revised SDR we have included standard, and enhanced, periodontal care and treatment items for patients with a BPE of 3 or 4 and/or interdental bone loss.

The standard periodontal care and treatment is the first step for patients who need specific periodontal care, and it enables the dentist to undertake supra- and sub-gingival scaling, surface instrumentation and provide more in-depth oral hygiene and lifestyle modification advice. Dentists can then review the perio status of patients after active treatment has ended and decide whether further intervention is necessary. Where further intervention is required, the enhanced periodontal care and treatment item can be used. This allows dentists to reinforce oral hygiene advice, repeat subgingival instrumentation and carry out instrumentation of deep residual pocketing.

We recognise that patients' periodontal care needs can change over time dependant on a range of factors, including patient behaviour. Therefore the new periodontal items will allow dentists to move patients between standard and enhanced periodontal care and treatment as their patients' periodontal status changes, as long as review examinations are carried out at the appropriate intervals.

Fillings

Fees for fillings will be claimable for single surface, 2 surface, or 3 or more surface fillings. Additionally, two composite supplement fees have been added:

- fillings on anterior teeth/small single surface posterior teeth; and,
- for multi-surface fillings involving the mesial or distal marginal ridge in posterior teeth, for qualifying patients as described in the new SDR.

Endodontic Treatment

We understand that the complexity of endodontic treatment can vary depending on which teeth are involved due to the number of roots which may be involved, therefore we have included different endodontic fees for certain teeth. There are fees for:

- Incisor/Canine/Lower Premolar teeth;
- Upper Premolar teeth; or
- Molar teeth.

We have also introduced a Root Canal Re-Treatment item to reflect the increased complexity of this procedure. This fee will be claimable in addition to the relevant endodontic fee.

Extractions

Based on feedback about the increased difficulty and time taken for certain extractions, such as surgical extraction of 3rd molars, we have introduced three new extraction items. These are:

- Extraction – for straightforward extractions of teeth;
- Surgical extractions – for extractions which may include: removal of buried roots; division of roots; removal of an unerupted or impacted tooth; soft tissue incision; and a muco-periosteal flap;
- Advanced surgical dentistry – for extractions of 3rd molars involving: partially impacted or unerupted teeth; raising a muco-periosteal flap; or division/decoronation of tooth/roots.

All three extraction items will include the provision of post-operative care and advice and will be claimable per tooth.

Sedation Assessment

We have introduced a sedation assessment item which will enable dentists to spend dedicated time with a patient to assess their suitability for sedation and to discuss pre and post sedation instruction and gain patient consent. This fee can be claimed even if the patient does not receive sedation for the course of treatment, to reflect the time required to provide this service for NHS patients.

Domiciliary Visit

When a dentist provides a domiciliary visit, either at a patient's home or in a care home, a domiciliary visit fee can now be claimed per location, rather than being based on the mileage for the trip. If the dentist sees more than one patient at the same location then only one fee

can be claimed. For example, if a dentist visits two patients in the same care home only one domiciliary visit fee could be claimed.