

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

**QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITY – 2022-25 CYCLE  
AMENDMENT NO. 164 TO THE STATEMENT OF DENTAL REMUNERATION –  
ENHANCED DOMICILIARY CARE FEES**

**Summary**

1. This Memorandum advises of the arrangements for Quality Improvement (QI) activity for the 2022-25 cycle and of Amendment No. 164 to the Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR).

**Quality Improvement Activity – 2022-25 Cycle**

2. As noted in the CDO letter of [24 November 2023](#) the Quality Improvement Activity – 2022-25 Cycle has been confirmed as including 3 areas. These are:
  - a team-based reflective report;
  - an Equality and Diversity online training module;
  - a practice-level workforce census.
3. The reflective report and online training module will be available from 9 am on 19 April 2024 on Turas at: [Quality Improvement Activity | Turas | Learn \(nhs.scot\)](#) and should be completed in time for the end of the current QI cycle on 30 July 2025. The practice-level workforce census will be emailed directly to practices on 1 May 2024 and should be completed by 12 June 2024.

**Team-Based Reflective Report**

4. The purpose of the team-based reflective report is for practices to reflect on the ways in which the introduction of the new Determination I has enabled the practice to further improve the quality of care provided to patients. This exercise will provide practices with a reflective framework which will guide the development of a practice action plan.
5. One report should be submitted per practice but all members of the dental team, both clinical and non-clinical, should contribute to the reflection. All team members who contribute to the reflection will be eligible for QI hours. Where a member of the team works in more than one practice they should contribute to the reflection at each practice. Where a member of the team is unable to contribute due to being on long-term leave, such as maternity leave or long-term sick absence, they will not be eligible to claim QI hours and any claim for a QI allowance should be reduced by a third.
6. Information and guidance on how to undertake the reflection and the template for submitting the report will be available on Turas at: [Quality Improvement Activity | Turas | Learn \(nhs.scot\)](#).

## Equality and Diversity Training Module

7. This training module aims to improve the dental teams awareness of issues around Equality and Diversity and should be completed by all individuals. The training module will be available on Turas at: [Quality Improvement Activity | Turas | Learn \(nhs.scot\)](#).

## Practice-Level Workforce Census

8. The purpose of the workforce census is to enable Scottish Government to better understand the current dental workforce. The results will then be used to inform workforce planning going forward.
9. The census, along with guidance on completing it, will be emailed directly to the practice email address on 1 May 2024 and should be completed by 12 June 2024.
10. The census should be completed once per practice, or PDS location, and should provide details of all staff within the practice as at week commencing 25 March 2024. All staff within the practice at that date should be included in the census return. Any absences due to sickness or leave should be ignored and those staff should be included within the return as if they were working their normal hours.

## Claiming a QI Allowance Payment

11. On completion of all relevant QI activity those dentists eligible for a QI allowance payment should ensure that they download their Turas completion certificates. A claim for the QI payment must be submitted within 6 months of completing the QI activity. We are working with Practitioner Services at present on an appropriate claim form and a separate communication will be issued from Practitioner Services once it is available.
12. If you are eligible for the allowance and have contributed to the reflective report, completed the online training module, and been included in the practice census return then you will be able to claim the full amount of QI payment. If you have been unable to contribute to the reflective report due to exceptional circumstances, such as a period of maternity leave or long term sickness, but have completed the other elements then you will be able to claim two thirds of the QI payment.

## **Amendment No. 164 to the Statement of Dental Remuneration – Enhanced Domiciliary Care Fees**

13. Following the introduction of the new Determination I from 1 November 2023, we have become aware of an unintended consequence in relation to the provision of enhanced domiciliary care. At present the balance of allowances and item of service fees does not appropriately recognise the added value of the service these dentists provide to both the vulnerable patients that they treat and to their host territorial health boards.
14. Therefore, we have amended item 8- Domiciliary Visit and Recalled Attendance in Determination I to allow this item to be claimed by enhanced domiciliary care dentists per care home location visited. This can be claimed in addition to all required items of treatment and enhanced skills allowances, as set out in Determination XVI, Part I.
15. Amendment No. 164 to the SDR will be effective from 1 May 2024.

16. A copy of the full amendment can be viewed at: <https://www.scottishdental.nhs.scot/>.

### **Enquiries**

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

Primary Care Directorate  
18 April 2024