

# General Dental Services – Monthly News Sheet

February 2017

## Reminder to Book Places: Dental Payments System Training

The majority of practices have now booked places on the above training. However, could those of you who are yet to do so please be aware that some sessions are now full as indicated below:

The sessions will run from 12noon to 2pm on each of the following dates:

- ⇒ Tues, 21st February 2017, Everglades Hotel, Derry/Londonderry
- ⇒ Tues, 7th March 2017, Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen
- ⇒ Mon, 20th March 2017 Armagh City Hotel, Armagh
- ⇒ ~~Thurs, 30th March 2017 Ramada Encore Hotel, Belfast~~ **now full**
- ⇒ ~~Mon, 3rd April 2017 Lagan Valley Island, Lisburn~~ **now full**
- ⇒ Wed, 12th April 2017 Tullyglass Hotel, Ballymena

**\*\*An extra evening session in Ramada Encore, Belfast from 6pm to 8pm on 25th April 2017 is now also being offered.\*\***

The training programme will cover:

- The Payments Claiming Process, plus
- Dental Payments System Portal
- Accurate Input of Treatment Plans
- Payments Reconciliation
- Patient Exemption
- Assurance Processes - Clarification of Treatment Codes.

To book your place(s) please contact Chris Young on 028 9536 2815 or at [chris.young@hscni.net](mailto:chris.young@hscni.net).

## NICE Clinical Guideline CG19 - Dental checks: Intervals between oral health reviews

The Department has recently reviewed the above NICE guidance and has formally endorsed it as applicable in Northern Ireland. It has been reviewed for applicability now due to its relationship to Public Health Guideline NG48 endorsed by the Department in October 2016.

Further information can be found at:  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg19>

## MDS 728: IMPORTANT EDI SECURITY NOTIFICATION

BSO have issued an MDS on necessary Dental Practice Management Systems (PMS) security certificates, to ensure that practices can continue to transmit correctly to the BSO.

From Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017, the BSO will only support the following security settings:

**Ciphers** AES 128, AES 256 (all other ciphers will be disabled)

**Hashes** SHA-2 (MD5, SHA will be disabled)

**Protocols** TLS 1.1, TLS 1.2 (SSL 2.0, SSL 3.0, TLS 1.0 will be disabled)

If practices fail to implement the required changes by **13<sup>th</sup> March 2017**, then they may be unable to submit payments after this deadline. The recent Dental EDI upgrade showed that the vast majority of PMS users have taken the security of their payments seriously by adopting the necessary upgrades. **Those practices that experienced recent issues should take immediate action to plan the necessary upgrades by contacting their Software PMS provider.** For more information, please see: <http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/pdf/>

## **REMINDER!**

When ordering stock for the practice emergency drug kit, dental practices should consider using the stock order (requisition) form that is available in the Forms Library on the BSO website at the following link: <http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/2371.htm>.

Some practices are using the much more detailed English form or using headed paper with some, but not all of the necessary detail present.

## BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS (BIDS) IN NORTHERN IRELAND

A Business Improvement District (BID) is a mechanism that has been recognised as being successful in bringing local businesses and other stakeholders together with the aim of regenerating their areas and improving their local trading environment. BIDs are developed, managed and paid for by the business sector by means of a compulsory BID levy which the non-domestic ratepayers within the proposed BID area must vote in favour of before the BID can be established. All non-domestic ratepayers within a potential BID area have the opportunity to vote on the proposals before the levy is imposed.

While primarily aimed at the local business sector, non-commercial organisations (for example public sector) in the area can also benefit from a BID through an improved working environment for their staff. As a BID area can include **any non-domestic ratepayers** within the designated area, Public Sector bodies and organisations should be aware that as ratepayers they may be covered by the proposal. If they are then that means that they will be entitled to vote on the BID proposals and if the ballot is successful will be liable for any BID levy due.

The Department for Communities is supporting the development of BIDs in Northern Ireland as a key component of its commitment to help strengthen the competitiveness of our towns and cities across the region. BIDs are also fully supported by the NI Executive and have been legislated for through the NI Assembly. The Department of Health recently wrote to GPs in relation to BIDs, this correspondence can be viewed at: [http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/pdf/GP\\_Practices\\_Business\\_Improvement\\_Districts.pdf](http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/pdf/GP_Practices_Business_Improvement_Districts.pdf).

## No Smoking Day - 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017

The Northern Ireland No Smoking Day Coordinating Group would like you to help raise awareness of No Smoking Day 2017, taking place on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017**.

This year's theme is 'Be Proud to be a Quitter' and will aim to encourage smokers to feel motivated to quit and give them a sense of achievement when they succeed.

All practices will soon be receiving some No Smoking Day posters – copies of these, and some other information can be found on the BSO website: <http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/2626.htm>.



### BCH Relief of Dental Pain Clinic Patient Satisfaction Survey

The Relief of Dental Pain Clinic at Belfast City Hospital recently carried out a Patient Satisfaction Survey. Some of the results are detailed below for your information.

#### Dental Problem/Condition?

Dental Trauma	2%
Swelling	24%
Bleeding	4%
Pain	68%
Other	2%

#### Waiting time for Dentist?

0-1 hours	52%
1-2 hours	38%
2 hours +	10%

#### How did you find the overall service?

Very satisfactory	89%
Satisfactory	11%
Not Satisfactory	0%

### THE GENERAL DENTAL SERVICES (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2017

The Department of Health has recently made the above named regulations which further amend the Health and Personal Social Services General Dental Services Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1993 (S.R. 1993 No. 326) ("the principal regulations") which deal with the arrangements for the provision of Health Service dental services in Northern Ireland.

The regulations amend the principal regulations to reflect the updated terminology that is now used concerning the postgraduate training of dentists. They amend the term "vocational" in the principal regulations, when referring to vocational training, as it has now been replaced by "dental foundation".

Additional amendments to certain wording in the principal regulations is also made to ensure that future dental foundation training is completed "satisfactorily" (as the training period is now subject to assessment) and adds a new Schedule 11 providing for the various aims and objectives. Other non-consequential amendments are made to update legislative references.

A copy of the above mentioned Regulations can be viewed at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisr/2017/10/contents/made>.