

General Dental Services – Monthly News Sheet

January 2018

REMINDER: Get Your Flu Vaccine Now

As you will be aware from your daily practice, Health and Social Care is under considerable pressure this winter. Substantial levels of seasonal influenza have placed further strain on primary and secondary care, and hospitalisations and intensive care admissions have increased.

It remains the case that flu vaccine is still the best defence we have against the spread of flu and it is not too late to get vaccinated if you have not already. **We have a shared professional responsibility as healthcare workers to take appropriate steps to protect our patients – including getting vaccinated.**

For further information, please see: [http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/pdf/HSS\(MD\)1-%202018%20-%20Flu%20Vaccination%20for%20Staff.pdf](http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/pdf/HSS(MD)1-%202018%20-%20Flu%20Vaccination%20for%20Staff.pdf)



Practices are reminded of the benefits of the BSO Portal:

- **Real time access to the Health and Care index**
The H&C search function facilitates accurate patient detail.
- **Full visibility of any payment claim status**
Practices can check the status of all claims – including EDI-claims
- **Access to top sheets, payment summary and schedules**
Aids reconciliation. Available monthly from January 2015
- **Search facility for specific claims**
Practices have the same access as BSO staff
- **Attachment of digital images for prior approval requests**
Supporting evidence can be added to EDI prior approval requests through the portal. This is safer, speeds up the process and reduces costs

For user agreements or if you are experiencing technical difficulties logging on to the portal please contact the E-business team via e-mail eBusiness@hscni.net or by phone on 028 9536 3751 or 028 9536 3681.

Hands-On Training to the Portal

The HSCB/BSO will offer a series of training sessions in the coming months. These will centre on the benefits of using the portal and how it interacts with practice management systems. **This training will be initially offered to those practices that have submitted their portal user agreements and accessed the system.**

Training will be offered in groups of between 6-8 members with each group led by the BSO Dental Team supported by HSCB clinical staff.

Targeted training will also be offered to practices with a high rate of failing claims. Further details will be communicated to the profession once dates and venues have been confirmed.

Medical Devices Alert MDA-2018-002

Philips HeartStart monitors/defibrillators, significant delay in supply of batteries.

Please check the link below if you have one of these devices:

<https://www.gov.uk/drug-device-alerts/all-philips-heartstart-mrx-monitors-defibrillators-significant-delay-in-the-supply-of-batteries>

Feedback: We would appreciate your comments and/or queries regarding the Monthly News Sheet. Please send them by email to: GDSMonthlyNewsSheet@hscni.net or telephone 028 9536 2823.