

General Dental Services Monthly News Sheet

March 2019

NIA-2019-001 : Reporting of Medical Device and Estates Adverse Incidents and disseminating Alerts

In the interests of patients, staff and visitor safety all regulated healthcare providers, including Ophthalmic, Pharmaceutical & Dental practices and GP surgeries should report Adverse Incidents (AIs); involving medical devices and estates defect and failures directly to the Northern Ireland Adverse Incident Centre (NIAIC). Further details can be found at the following link: <https://applications.health-ni.gov.uk/NICAS/Public/AlertInfo.aspx>

Advice for Users of Portable Fans

All portable fans used in clinical areas should be clinically risk assessed for each use and reuse.

Please click on the link below for further information.

<http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/pdf/EFA-2019-001%20portable%20fans%20risk%20of%20cross%20infection.pdf>

Electronic Referrals to Secondary Care

GPs and Optometrists refer their patients into secondary care using an electronic referral system known as the Clinical Communications Gateway (CCG). A letter was issued by post to all Practice Principals and copied by email to all dentists in February to notify them that this facility will be made available to dentists via the Dental Portal over the coming months. (Copy of letter at following link: <http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/3011.htm>)

BSO will telephone your practice over the coming weeks to discuss the potential installation of CCG on your practice PCs. They will need to know which/how many of your PCs you want the CCG software to be installed on and you are encouraged to discuss this as a practice in advance of this call. Please note that your participation is optional at this stage.

To enable those practices which are not yet digital to send accompanying images with their referrals and also for the purposes of electronic prior-approval submissions you may be able to purchase relevant ICT equipment via the Revenue Grant Scheme (as notified to you separately).

If you do not yet have access to the Dental Portal you should arrange this now by contacting the BSO eBusiness Team by email at ebusiness@hscni.net or by phone on 028 9536 3751 or 028 9536 3681.

****£1 Million REVENUE GRANT SCHEME 2018/19 for GDS Practices****

GDS Practices in Northern Ireland should now have received a letter from HSCB with the offer of a grant allocation under the Revenue Grant Scheme for 2018/19. There is a very limited period to claim this grant so we recommend that practices follow the scheme instructions contained in the letter. If practices have any queries in relation to this scheme, or have not received a letter, please email: RevenueGrantScheme@hscni.net

Medical Device Alerts

Two Medical Device Alerts have recently been issued. One relates to Lifepak 15 defibrillators and the other to Convatec disposable items. If this is relevant to your practice please follow these links to the BSO website and review the Alerts.

<http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/pdf/MDA-2019-010%20Lifepak%2015%20professional%20defib%20final.pdf>

<http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/pdf/MDA-2019-012%20final.pdf>

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.

Referral Dental Service (RDS)

Part of the HSCB Dental Adviser team

The Referral Dental Service (RDS) comprises a small team of Dental Advisers who monitor the appropriateness and the quality of care of dentistry carried out in the GDS in Northern Ireland. Currently the RDS is staffed by 2 HSCB Dental Advisers.

Catherine McQuillan BDentSc MFGDP holds a diploma in Primary Care Orthodontics, and has been working as a Dental Advisor for the Health and Social Care Board since 2011. Catherine previously worked in general dental practice, the community dental services, the RDS in DHSSPSNI and in a regional orthodontic hospital unit. William Priestley BDS MJDF joined the team in 2014 having worked in general practice for the bulk of his career. William also works as a Clinical Assessor for NHS Resolution. Both advisers are full members of the Faculty of General Dental Practice.

The RDS exists to ensure that dental treatment provided under the GDS in Northern Ireland is carried out to a satisfactory standard and that the fees claimed are appropriate. We aim to see a selection of each dentist's patients every three years and normally ten patients are randomly chosen to be examined by the one of the RDS team. The clinical notes are also assessed to ensure quality of record keeping, compliance with both the GDS Regulations and IR (ME) R, and the probity of GDS claims. The RDOs provide advice to practitioners in their reports, if appropriate.

We are conscious that GDS practitioners will also have Probity Services reviews on a cyclical basis. We endeavour to communicate in advance with our colleagues in the BSO Probity Services division, and when possible, we make every effort to avoid calling a routine RDS sample for a practitioner within the same calendar year as a probity review. We appreciate that monitoring is an anticipated but potentially time consuming part of the working life of all GDS dentists and specialists. We are very grateful to all the practices and practitioners who helpfully facilitate this necessary work.

The RDS Monitoring Protocols and further information are available on the BSO website at: <http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/2649.htm>. If you have any questions please contact us:

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Health Literacy Training for Primary Care

As part of the implementation of Making Every Contact Count (MECC) in Primary Care, health literacy training has been arranged across NI. The training is being delivered by Belfast Healthy Cities and the Community Health Development Network and is open to anyone working in a primary care setting.

If you are interested in attending, please book a place via <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/> (search for making Every Contact Count) or by emailing Jessica.mcgurk@hscni.net. Please note places are limited. If any members of your practice team are interested in attending please advise them to **register ASAP**.

NIMDTA are delighted to inform you that the NIMDTA CE April – June 2019 Continuing Education Courses are now live for booking!

To access the courses click the logo...

