

Dear Colleague

STRATEGIC VISION FOR e-DENTISTRY: SUPPORT FUNDING

Summary

1. The Memorandum to this letter advises dentists and dental bodies corporate (DBC's) of non-recurring funding available to practices to support the Scottish Government's Strategic Vision for e-Dentistry.

Action

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

Yours sincerely,

MARGIE TAYLOR
Chief Dental Officer

4 April 2016

Addresses

For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards

For information

Chief Executive,
NHS National Services Scotland

Chief Executive,
NHS Education for Scotland

Director, Practitioner Services

Dental Lead Officers
ehealth Leads

Enquiries to:

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

STRATEGIC VISION FOR e-DENTISTRY: SUPPORT FUNDING

Introduction

1. The recent Memorandum entitled the *Strategic Vision for e-Dentistry* (22 October 2015) notified dentists and dental bodies corporate (DBC's) (i.e. contractors) of a number of IT-related developments, and the target date for their introduction as follows:

- E-Signatures will be allowed from April 2016;
- All communication between NHS Boards and dentists/DBC's will be via NHS email and all referrals from dentists will be via SCI gateway from 1 April 2017;
- All claims for payment and prior approval must be electronic, by practice management software, or web-based GP17, by 1 January 2018.

2. The Memorandum made reference to non-recurring funding that will be made available to practices to support this e-dental programme. This Memorandum provides further details about the amount of funding available, the purpose of the funding, and the arrangements for disbursement and ensuring compliance.

Amount

3. The amount of reimbursement available will be £350 per practice.

Purpose

4. The funding may be used for a number of purposes. There are a small minority of practices that rely on paper-based claims to Practitioners Services. As part of a general move to electronic communication, these practices have the choice of moving to a web-based solution or adopting a practice management system. The funding may be used to purchase a computer to ensure continued access to the NHS IT system and allow adoption of the web-based solution, or alternatively pay for a computer as part of a general upgrade to a practice management system. *It is advisable that a practice contact the IT facilitator in their NHS Board for the minimum specification for a PC.*

5. Practices that already have a practice management system in place may wish to adopt e-signature technology and use the funding to purchase an e-signature pad. Alternatively the funding may be used to replace an ageing PC etc.

6. If practices decide to adopt a practice management system they may wish to use this funding towards the initial purchase costs of the system. Funding may not be used for any recurring or maintenance costs for a practice management system.

Arrangements for Disbursement

7. It is anticipated that funding will be included in the practices' designated contractors April 2016 schedule (paid May). Practices will have a period of twelve months from the date of the payment schedule to complete a self-declaration form "that the funding has been spent appropriately on IT equipment" and specify what the funding has purchased, either in part or in full. In the event that a practice does not complete this form within this period, the amount will be netted from the designated contractor's next payment schedule following the lapse of the 12 month period.

8. A practice that does not have a designated contractor should contact PSD to agree which contractor in the practice should be the recipient for the practice.

9. Dentists/DBC's should be aware that PSD will require a random sample of practices to provide supplementary evidence (e.g. a scanned copy of receipt). In the event that the supplementary evidence is not supplied, the funding will be netted off from the designated contractor's/nominated contractor's next available payment schedule.

10. The self-declaration form is attached at Annex A to this Memorandum.

11. Amendment No. 132 to the Statement of Dental Remuneration, which enables this funding to be made to practices, is attached.

Enquiries

12. Any enquiries arising from this Memorandum should be directed to your NHS Board.

Scottish Government Healthcare Quality & Strategy Directorate
4 April 2016

e-Dentistry Support Funding Self Declaration**Part A - Practice Details**Designated
Contractor

List Number

Practice
AddressContact Person
(if not designated
Contractor)

Position

Contact Number

Part B - Equipment Details

Equipment Purchased (please tick)

Date Purchased

☐

Computer

☐

e-Signature Pad

☐

Contribution to Initial Cost of Practice Management System

Part C - Declaration

I confirm that the information provided above is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

- I agree to provide Practitioner Services with any supplementary evidence they require.
- In the event I do not provide Practitioner Services with supplementary evidence I understand that the funding will be recovered in my next available payment schedule.

Signature of
(Designated
Contractor)

Date

**PLEASE SEND COMPLETED FORM TO PRACTITIONER SERVICES (DENTAL), GYLE
SQUARE, 1 SOUTH GYLE CRESCENT, EDINBURGH EH12 9EB**

STATEMENT OF DENTAL REMUNERATION

Pursuant to Regulation 22(3) of the National Health Service (General Dental Services) (Scotland) Regulations 2010, as amended, Scottish Ministers have amended on 1 April 2016 the Statement of Dental Remuneration

Amendment No 132

1. The amendment shall take effect from the date set out below:
 - (i) The amendment to Determination X shall take effect from 1 April 2016.
2. This amendment shall not affect any rights or liabilities acquired or incurred under or by virtue of any provisions of the Statement of Dental Remuneration amended or replaced by this amendment.
3. In Determination X (Allowance and Grants for Practice Improvements):

3.1 In paragraph 2(1) (Interpretation) after the definition of:

“dentist” there is added the following definition:

“designated contractor” means that contractor deemed designated by the practice and recorded by the CSA;

“NHS earnings” there is added the following definition:

“a practice” means a single geographical location from which general dental services are provided, this location being the practice address on a Health Board list;

3.2 After Part I there is added the following:

“Part IA – Additional Allowance for Practice Improvements

General

9. Subject to paragraph 10, the CSA shall pay to a designated contractor within a practice an allowance as specified in paragraph 11 towards the cost of IT infrastructure as described in the Memorandum to NHS: PCA(D)(2016)
4. Where there is no designated dentist within a practice the CSA shall pay the allowance to a contractor nominated by the practice and agreed with the CSA.

Condition of Entitlement

10. Practices eligible for payment of an allowance under paragraph 11 are those which were in use for the provision of general dental services on 1 April 2016.

Amounts

11. The amount of allowance to be paid where the condition at paragraph 10 is met shall be £350 per practice.”