



Dear Colleague

AMENDMENT NO. 167 TO THE STATEMENT OF DENTAL REMUNERATION

Summary

1. This letter advises of Amendment No. 167 to the Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR) which provides for the following:
 - A new scale of fees for Determination I, effective from 1 November 2025.
 - An update to Determination I – Increased prior approval limit, effective from 1 November 2025.
 - An update to Determination IX – Commitment Payments, effective from 1 January 2026.
 - An update to Determination XIV – Practice Allowances, effective from 1 January 2026.
2. Amendment No. 167 to the Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR can be viewed in full at: [Statement of Dental Remuneration – Scottish Dental](#)).

25 August 2025

Addresses

For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards

Directors of Dentistry

For information

Chief Executive,
NHS National Services
Scotland

Chief Executive,
NHS Education for Scotland

Directors of Dentistry

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Amendments to Determination I – Pay Award

3. The Scottish Government has accepted the pay bodies (DDRB) recommendation of a 4 per cent increase on the pay element for general dental practitioners, and orthodontic fees. As in previous years, the increase on pay will apply to gross item of service fees and capitation payments. The pay award will be implemented from 1 November 2025 and backdated to 1 April 2025.
4. The pay award will be included in the October paid November 2025 payment schedule for claims with an acceptance date on or after 1 November 2025.
5. Backdated payments will be included in November paid December 2025 payment schedule for claims with an acceptance date from 1 April 2025 to 31 October 2025.

Amendment to Determination I – Prior Approval

6. The prior approval limit will increase by 10 per cent which means a change from £600 to £660. This is reflective of the 6 per cent pay award in 2024/2025, and the 4 per cent pay award in 2025/2026.
7. The new prior approval limit will apply to courses of treatment with an acceptance date on or after 1 November 2025.

Amendments to Determination IX – Commitment Payments

8. Commitment payments are directly linked to gross fees, and in order to maintain parity in real terms, thresholds for commitment payments are increased in line with fee awards on an annual basis. Therefore, we have increased the commitment payment thresholds by 4 per cent.
9. This will be effective from 1 January 2026. The first payment schedule affected by this change will be the March paid April 2026 payment schedule.

Amendments to Determination XIV – Practice Allowances, Part I – General Dental Practice Allowance

10. The amount of General Dental Practice Allowance which can be paid to practices has been increased by 4 per cent, to a maximum of £22,880 per quarter.
11. This change will be effective from 1 January 2026. The first payment affected by this change will be the March paid April 2026 payment schedule.

Actions for NHS Boards

12. NHS Boards should ensure that:
 - they issue this circular to all dentists and dental bodies corporate on their dental lists;
 - they ensure Hospital Dental Services staff are aware of the new fee scale, which they require to calculate the proper patient charge element for certain dental appliances provided out-with general dental services.

Actions for Practitioner Services

13. Practitioner Services are asked to put in place the necessary arrangements to meet the requirements set out in this circular.

Enquiries

14. Any enquiries arising from this circular should be taken up with your NHS Board.

Yours sincerely



Tom Ferris
Chief Dental Officer