



September  
2020

Welcome to the Schedule Communications where you will find all our latest news and useful information.

## Information for all 2019-20 VDPs if you are joining an NHS practice in Scotland

Once you have received your NHS list number from your NHS Board, please complete a [Dentist Joining Practice Form](#) as soon as possible and email it to [nss.psd-dental-payments-covid19@nhs.scot](mailto:nss.psd-dental-payments-covid19@nhs.scot) to allow any calculation and processing of the appropriate remuneration. The appropriate payment calculation **cannot** be completed without us being informed in respect of the details relating to your position/s by the completion and submission of the form.

For further information please access the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

## eDental, eOrtho and ePrior Approval downtime

**20 September 2020**

eDental, eOrtho and ePrior Approval will be unavailable between 12.00 and 17.00 on Sunday 20 September due to routine maintenance. You will be unable to submit any claims or requests during this time. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

## Endodontic treatment – root fillings

Memorandum to NHS [PCA\(D\)\(2020\)11](#), issued by the Scottish Government on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020, announced that, from 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020 dental contractors could provide a limited number of AGPs for their registered NHS patients who are in need of urgent oral health care.

The treatments that may be provided in those circumstances are listed at Section IX(b) of Determination I to Amendment 147.

In relation to endodontic treatments, only the following items are listed:

Item 40(a) - opening root canals for drainage

Item 40(b) - pulp extirpation and dressing to seal cavities in permanent teeth

It is however recognised that in some circumstances it may be possible for the treating dentist to proceed to obturate the root canal system during the same treatment episode as pulp extirpation and that, depending on the clinical picture doing so may be in a patient's best interests.

Practitioner Services has clarified with the Scottish Government that, in the above circumstances the treating dentist may proceed to complete a root filling if in the clinical judgement of the dentist doing so would be in the patient's best interests.

Similarly, dentists may continue with the obturation of teeth previously extirpated and dressed as part of an earlier course of treatment, including treatment provided at a UDCC, where this can be done without involving an AGP.

Since there is no code in SDR 147 to represent a root filling, contractors should continue to record the activity under item 40(b) alone but should in addition enter the following in observations:

**Re: Item 40 (b) claim – root filling has been completed**

## Action required - Update for public certificates

There are some changes coming for public certificates (for patient search) for dental practices which need to be carried out by practices by 13 October 2020.

The renewal of the ePractitioner verification certificate, which is used to secure elements of the ePractitioner infrastructure, is due soon - specifically, 13 October 2020. After this date, if the new certificate has not been installed on local practice management systems practices will no longer be able to retrieve patient details in response to a patient details request.

Installation instructions can be found at

<http://www.eps.nds.scot.nhs.uk/VertCert/install.html>

This is a straightforward task for each practice, which involves simply logging on to the PMS server with administration rights and clicking the link to run the update.

Rollout of this certificate will be tracked centrally and reported on regularly to ensure progress. As noted, this task is required to be undertaken at each practice ahead of the October deadline.

System suppliers may undertake this task on behalf of practices, or practices can run this update themselves. If you are with Dentally, Systems for Dentists or Wysdom, your supplier will arrange to update the certificate on your behalf - otherwise you should follow the installation instructions above. Please contact your system supplier for details if required.

## Claim cut-offs

Sep paid Oct '20

Oct paid Nov '20

[nhsnss.org](http://nhsnss.org)

Electronic

5pm Tuesday 6 Oct '20

5pm Monday 9 Oct '20

Telephone: 0131 275 6300

e-mail: [nss.psddental@nhs.scot](mailto:nss.psddental@nhs.scot)