FAQ on Revised Payment Arrangements
PCA(D)(2022)(3)

Q. What will I be paid for courses of treatment opened before 1 April 2022?

A. The date at which a course of treatment was opened does not affect the multiplier payment. The multiplier payment is calculated based on IoS claims that are actually paid each month. Therefore, if a course of treatment opened before 1 April 2022 is submitted to PSD and processed for payment in the April-paid May 2022 payment schedule it will attract a multiplier payment.

Q. What will the multiplier be applied to?

A. The multiplier payment will be calculated on the gross IoS fees paid in each month (Line 3 + Line 37 on your Account 7 payment schedule). Therefore, if a practice has gross IoS fees of £3,000 paid in May, then they would receive those fees and a multiplier payment of £2,100.

Q. What happens to patient fees? Does this only benefit those with exempt patients? Will patients have to pay more?

A. The multiplier payment does not change the fees in the SDR. Patients that pay for their NHS treatment will continue to do so in the normal way.

For example, if a patient, who ordinarily pays for their treatment, receives a scale and polish (Item 10a) they will still pay £12.36. When the claim is paid the dentist will receive the ordinary SDR fee plus a multiplier payment of £10.82.

Q. Which line will the additional Multiplier payment appear on?

A. The multiplier payment will appear on Line 7 and is fully superannuated.

Q. How long could a multiplier last? Will the multiplier disappear after the first 3 months?

A. The multiplier framework will remain in place for 12 months. The level at which the multiplier is set will be reviewed every 3 months and is subject to change. We will try to give practitioners as much notice as possible if the level of the multiplier is going to change.

Q. Will it purely be SG budget that will determine this?

A. The level of the multiplier will be determined by taking into consideration what IPC measures are in place; the overall level of dental activity; and budgetary requirements.

Q. When will reform actually happen? Will they return us to the full SDR and just leave it at that?
A. Work on the reform is set to begin in the Spring. It is not our intention within the reform space to return the sector to the pre-pandemic SDR.

Q. What do we do with open treatment plans when it hits 1 April? Do we close them off like before?

A. No - treatment plans that are open prior to 1 April 2022 should not need to be closed and patients full treatment plan should continue as normal.

Q. What happens if there is another variant?

A. The multiplier framework is in place for 12 months and the level at which the multiplier is set will be reviewed every 3 months. This will allow us to take the impact of any new variant into consideration when determining what level the multiplier should be set at and give us flexibility to support the dental sector as required.

Q. Will this apply to all dentists? Will those of us with little or no history in Scotland receive this too?

A. Previous level of activity or history in Scotland will not affect eligibility for the multiplier payment. All dentists working in non-orthodontic practices will be able to receive a multiplier payment based on the gross IoS fees they are paid each month.

Q. I do occasional orthodontic treatment in my practice will I get the multiplier?

A. Yes, dentists working in non-orthodontic practices, who provide some orthodontic treatment to patients, will be able to receive a multiplier payment.

Q. I work in an orthodontic-only practice, why can I not get the multiplier payment for orthodontic claims but non-orthodontic practices can?

A. Orthodontic-only practices are not eligible for the multiplier payment because they are not constrained by IPC guidance as per normal dental settings.

Q. What is the position on assistants and trainees?

A. Since assistants and vocational trainees assist in the provision of GDS any work undertaken is on behalf of the principal and therefore is eligible to be included in the calculation of a multiplier payment and this will be either paid through the assistant type list number or the trainer type list number whichever is appropriate and is based on the GIOS paid through that list number.