

**MEMORANDUM TO CONTRACTORS
TO ALL CONTRACTORS ON THE DENTAL
LIST**

MDS 749

Tel: **02895 363736**

10th January 2022

Covid-19: Support Arrangements for Level 2 PPE

Further to the correspondence from the Head of Dental Services (HSCB) on 8 December 2021, the DoH, HSCB and BSO would like to draw your attention to the following:

**AMENDMENTS TO THE STATEMENT OF DENTAL REMUNERATION
(SDR)**

Changes to Determination I (Scale of Fees)

Item 30 has been updated to allow dentists to claim fees for the use of Level II Personal Protective Equipment in the provision of Aerosol Generating Procedures.

The fee associated with Item 30 will be determined by the Committee based on 2 sets of Level II PPE as outlined in the GDS Operational Guidance. The £12 fee has been calculated based on the current market price of the PPE. The market price will be monitored on a monthly basis and the fee will be reviewed on a quarterly basis and adjusted as appropriate, with a MDS to advise of any price changes.

An additional proviso (proviso 4) has been added to item 30 in the recently amended SDR.

Guidance to General Dental Practitioners on the use of Item 30

- ***What details need to be included in the patient record:***
For each patient visit please record that an AGP has been carried out and if Level II PPE has been used. The justification for the use

of Level II PPE at each patient visit must be recorded in patient records and be in line with the extant NI GDS operational Guidance. Observations are **not** required on the EDI/HS45 claim where an AGP has been carried out (but see exceptions below *EDI/HS45 Claim*).

- ***List of Item of Service associated with AGPs***

The list of SDR items of service associated with AGPs includes, but is not limited to, those detailed at Appendix A. Whilst multiple claims are permitted, only one claim per patient visit is payable.

- ***EDI/HS45 Claim: Use of Level II PPE with no associated AGP item of service. Dentists no longer need to complete observation section of EDI/HS45 claim where no AGP item can be claimed.***

Please note observations are required if a single set of Level II PPE is used rather than two sets for an AGP.

- ***Northern Ireland Dental Operational Guidance and Payments for Item 30***

Payment for claims under item 30 will continue to be made for the use of level 2 PPE where the dentist has assessed that it is clinically necessary. This position will be reviewed at the end of March 2022. Payment for claims under item 30 will be made at a practice level to the nominated dentist.

Any enquiries arising from this memorandum should be directed to GDS.Correspondence@hscni.net