

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

MDS 747

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August 2021

Covid-19: Support Arrangements for 2021/22

Further to the correspondence from the Head of General Dental & Ophthalmic Services (DoH) on 9 August 2021, the HSCB and BSO would like to draw your attention to the following points in respect of the operation of the revised financial support scheme (FSS3) which will be introduced from 8 September 2021:

**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.

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.

- **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 Annex A. Whilst multiple claims are permitted, only one claim per patient visit is payable.
- **Use of Level II PPE with no associated AGP item of service. Dentists need to complete observation section of EDI/HS45 claim where no AGP item can be claimed.**
Where Level II PPE has been used but no SDR AGP item can be claimed, the observation section of EDI/HS45 claim must be completed to justify the need for Level II PPE.
Please note observations are also required if a single set of Level II PPE is used rather than two sets for an AGP.
- **Claims for treatment which straddle 8 September 2021.**
If the dates of a claim (course of treatment) straddle 8th September 2021 (start prior to and completed after 8th September), observations are required to list the use of Level II PPE for AGPs between the 9th September and the completion date.

Claims for Item 30 should not be made for PPE used prior to 9 September 2021, as such funding will be provided under the existing FSS2 arrangements.

- **Payments for Item 30**
Payment for claims under item 30 will be made at a practice level to the nominated dentist.

Payment Dates for claims under FSS2 and FSS3

- **Cut-off date for FSS2**
Any claims paid in September's cycle will be subject the FSS2 payment. Claim submission and payment dates are detailed in BSO letter 11 August 2021 and available at: <https://hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/2879.htm>
- **Implementation date for SDR Item 30 and FSS3 claims**
As per dates stated in DoH letter 09/08/2021 – FSS3 arrangements will be introduced from 8th September 2021.

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