

**DENTISTS/DENTAL BODIES CORPORATE
NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE
GENERAL DENTAL SERVICES**

AMENDMENT NO. 154 TO THE STATEMENT OF DENTAL REMUNERATION

i. New Funding to Support Recovery of NHS Dental Services

1. This Memorandum advises of the publication of an amendment to the Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR), Amendment No. 154, which takes effect from 1 February 2022. Amendment No. 154 will be available to view or download at <http://www.scottishdental.org/> .

2. The Memorandum also reintroduces the pre-pandemic requirement to submit form GP-234 declarations from 28 February 2022.

Background

3. The Cabinet Secretary wrote to all NHS dental teams on 21 October 2021. This letter provided NHS dental teams with a notice period for changes to the SDR from 1 February 2022. These changes necessitate the recovery of routine NHS dental services, with a particular focus on child dental care and oral health inequalities. The fee changes constitute a substantial investment in NHS dental services by the Scottish Government - new funding of between £20 and £25m per year has been made available by the Scottish Government to support NHS dental teams.

4. The Cabinet Secretary's letter also set out the Government's intentions to withdraw the current emergency support arrangements from 1 April 2022. In view of the retention of the current Infection, Prevention and Control (IPC) constraints on the dental sector and the on-going suppressing impact on dental activity, officials have been engaged in discussions with BDA Scotland around suitable financial mitigation measures that continue to support NHS dentistry while improving patient access within a constrained environment. The intention is to inform NHS dental teams of these arrangements as soon as possible.

5. In summary, the changes from 1 February 2022 are as follows:

Enhanced Examination Fees for Adult Patients

- All adult patients will now be seen under enhanced examination fee arrangements. The basic examination (and fee of £9.95 per examination) will no longer be claimable. Instead dentists will be able to claim the enhanced examination fee of £14.85 per examination (the period between claims for the enhanced examination fee has also been reduced to five complete calendar months).
- Table 1 illustrates the impact on fee remuneration following the introduction of the enhanced examination fee from 1 February 2022. Like-for-like a 49% increase in fee income may be earned per patient seen:

Table 1.	Pre-1 Feb		Post-1 Feb	
Adult Patient				
1(a) Examination x 2	£	19.90	£	-
1(f)(i) Examination x 2	£	-	£	29.70
Per Year	£	19.90	£	29.70
% Increase Per Patient				49%

New Enhanced Examination and Radiograph Fees for Children

- We are also introducing the opportunity to claim the enhanced examination fee in respect of children. The purpose behind this change is to incentivise dentists to prioritise children when tackling the backlog of care. This means every examination undertaken at appropriate intervals will attract the enhanced fee across all patient groups.
- Dentists will also be able to claim a fee under item 2(a)(1) small radiographs for children. Larger radiographs taken for general treatment remain as before. Orthodontics is unchanged.

Extension of Childsmile Eligibility and Streamlining of Existing Fee Codes

- We are now offering dentists the opportunity to claim Childsmile fees for children and young people up to 17 years of age (presently up to 5 years of age), and fluoride varnish application, under item 44(g), between 2 and 12 years of age (presently between 2 and 5 years of age). The purpose behind this change is to directly address the increase in oral health inequalities that may have arisen in children and young people during the pandemic.
- Table 2 – illustrates the impact on fee remuneration for a child of 10 years of age, with a SIMD 2 postcode, in receipt of childsmile treatment, with the new enhanced examination fee from 1 February 2022. This shows that a 105% increase in fee income may be earned per patient:

Table 2.	Pre-1 Feb		Post-1 Feb	
10 Year Old Child in SIMD 1				
41(a)(vi) x 12 months	£	60.00	£	60.00
1(f)(i) Examination x 2	£	-	£	29.70
SIMD annual fee	£	-	£	18.60
44((g) FV Application x 2	£	-	£	14.50
Per Year	£	60.00	£	122.80
% Increase Per Patient				105%

- We have also simplified the arrangements for claiming for Childsmile treatment by reducing the number of fee codes to two. The item fee code relevant to the SIMD of the

patient's postcode (SIMD area 1-2 or 3-5) should be used regardless of the age of the child (0 to 17 years). Claims can be made providing there is a minimum period of 11 complete calendar months between consecutive treatments.

- A SIMD postcode checker is available at: <https://www.nss.nhs.scot/dental-services/scottish-index-of-multiple-deprivation-simd/find-out-if-an-area-is-deprived>

ii. Consequential Changes to Statement of Dental Remuneration

6. A number of consequential changes have been made to the SDR. A copy of the updated determination is included in Annex A to this Memorandum.

Determination I – Section II - Diagnosis

Item 1 – Examination and Report

7. From 1 February 2022 the following fee codes will be removed:

- Item 1(a) Clinical examination, advice, charting and report
- Item 1(b) Extensive clinical examination, advice, charting and report

8. From 1 February 2022 the following new fee codes will be introduced:

- Item 1(f)(i) Extensive clinical examination, advice, charting and report - £14.85
- Item 1(f)(ii) Extensive clinical examination (orthodontics) - £14.85
- Item 1(g) Clinical examination for orthodontic follow-up appointment - £9.95
- Item 1(h) Clinical examination in connection with trauma - £9.95

9. From 1 February 2022, all non-orthodontic dental examinations that would previously have attracted a claim under item 1(a) or 1(b) should now be claimed under item 1(f)(i) as appropriate. Item 1(f)(i) can be claimed after 5 complete calendar months have elapsed since any previous claim under item 1(c) or 1(f)(i), or under items 1(a) or 1(b) under any previous SDR.

10. From 1 February 2022, all orthodontic examinations that would previously have attracted a claim under item 1(a) or 1(b) should now be claimed under item 1(g) or 1(f)(ii) respectively. The intervals for each these examinations remain consistent with Items 1(a) and 1(b) (i.e. 5 complete calendar months and 23 complete calendar months respectively).

11. All claims for clinical examinations in connection with trauma should be made under item 1(h).

12. A fee shall be payable under items 1(c), 1(f)(i), 1(f)(ii), 1(g) and 1(h) for patients registered under item 41 Capitation.

13. Practitioners should note that all existing provisos to items 1, 2, and 10 have been amended to take account of the above changes.

Item 2 – Procedures to Assist Diagnosis and Treatment Planning

14. A fee shall be payable under item 2(a)(i) for patients registered under item 41 Capitation.

Determination I – Section X – Treatment under Capitation

15. From 1 February 2022 the following item codes will be removed:

- Item 41(a)(ii) Aged 0-2 years – annual Childsmile fee
- Item 41(a)(iv) Aged 3-5 years – tooth brushing and dietary advice
- Item 41(a)(v) Annual fee where the patient's postcode is in SIMD area 1-3

16. From 1 February 2022 the following item code will be introduced:

- Item 42 Childsmile – fee based on the SIMD of the patient's postcode – £18.60 for SIMD 1-2 and £6.10 for SIMD 3-5.

17. The fees and narrative requirements for items 41(a)(ii), 41(a)(iv), and 41(a)(v) have been included in the new item 42. Practitioners should ensure that they are familiar with the provisos to item 42.

18. Item 44(g) - Application of topical fluoride varnish to all tooth surfaces has been amended to allow this to be claimed for patients up to 12 years of age (inclusive).

iii. Form GP-234 Submissions to Practitioner Services (28 February 2022)

19. Practices are required to submit form GP-234 to Practitioner Services by 28 February 2022. We are now reinstating the pre-pandemic arrangements that all practices require to return a declaration of the proportion that their practice's total earnings, in their most recent financial year, was attributable to NHS earnings. The form should be certified by the practice accountant. Any practice that has already made self-certified returns should arrange for a further copy of their form to be appropriately certified by their accountant and resubmit to Practitioner Services.

20. A copy of the form is available at: <https://www.nss.nhs.scot/media/2331/gp234-jan22.pdf>.

Enquiries

21. Any enquiries arising from this Memorandum should be taken up with your NHS Board.

Scottish Government Primary Care Directorate
17 January 2022

Annex A

Section II — Diagnosis

1. **Examination and Report:** Fees for clinical examination, treatment planning, patient management, advice (including the issue of a prescription other than in connection with item 37 [treatment urgently required for acute conditions]) and report:

1(a) This item has been deleted

1(b) This item has been deleted

1(c) Full case assessment (including full charting and report of periodontal status), treatment planning and report:

- (i) in connection with item 10(c) [non-surgical treatment of chronic periodontal disease] where a report on periodontal status is required, including full pocket depth charting of each standing tooth; or
- (ii) in cases involving items 18 [bridges] and, where the treatment is of special complexity, 16 [veneers], 17 [inlays and crowns] and in dentate cases involving items 27(b) and 27(c) [provision of dentures]; or
- (iii) in orthodontic cases other than in respect of treatment involving only the extraction of deciduous teeth; or
- (iv) where the treatment required carries a total fee exceeding £600:

	Dentist's Fee	Patient's Charge
0121	per course of treatment	£30.85 (£0.00)

1(d) Provision of a care and treatment summary for a patient, other than a patient only accepted for occasional treatment, when requested by a patient/parent who has indicated an intention to change dentist, showing information about the patient's dental health and/or treatment which would not be readily available from visual examination:

0131	per report	£4.85 (£3.88)
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1(e) Clinical examination, including any review between examinations, by a domiciliary care dentist for patients aged 18 or over resident in an assigned care home to include examinations, advice, charting (including charting of periodontal status) and report including the examination of a patient in connection with trauma, where the patient is in a continuing care arrangement with the domiciliary care dentist:

0141	per examination	£32.65 (£0.00)
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1(f)(i) Extensive clinical examination, advice, charting (including assessment and recording of any malocclusion and charting of periodontal status), and report.

To include:

Medical history update, relevant dental history, charting of missing/present teeth, soft tissue examination, caries risk, basic periodontal examination and/or periodontal charting, oral hygiene status, any relevant non-carious tooth surface loss, information regarding habits (behavior and dietary, to include tobacco/smoking and alcohol use).

	Dentist's Fee	Patient's Charge
0151	per examination	£14.85 (£0.00)
1(f)(ii) Extensive clinical examination (orthodontics)		
Diagnostic orthodontic assessment prior to undertaking, and as part of a course of active orthodontic treatment under Item 32.		
0161	per examination	£14.85 (£0.00)
1(g) Clinical examination for the purpose of orthodontic follow-up appointment.		
0171	per examination	£9.95 (£0.00)
1(h) Clinical examination where urgent attention and advice are required in connection with trauma.		
0181	per examination	£9.95 (£0.00)

Non-Orthodontic Provisos to Item 1:

Where fees are claimed on form GP 17 (or electronic equivalent) in connection with non-orthodontic treatment:

1. no fees under item 1 shall be payable for examination of a group of patients in a school or institution;
2. only one examination fee shall be payable to, or in respect of, the same dentist during the same course of treatment;
3. no fee shall be payable under item 1(f)(i) for an examination of a patient for whom the same dentist:
 - (i) was paid, or in respect of which the same dentist was paid, or is entitled to be paid, a fee under items 1(a), 1(b), 1(c), or 1(f)(i) for an examination during the previous 5 complete calendar months, or
 - (ii) was paid, or in respect of which the same dentist was paid, or is entitled to be paid, a fee under item 32 [orthodontic treatment];
4. in the case of a patient who is pregnant or has borne a child in the previous 12 complete calendar months and who is not edentulous, a fee under item 1(f)(i) shall be payable for an examination during the period of pregnancy and 12 months after confinement, in addition to the fees which may otherwise be payable and such treatment may be provided at any time during this period;
5. no fee shall be payable under item 1(c) for an examination of a patient for whom the same dentist was paid, or in respect of which the same dentist was paid, or is entitled to be paid, a fee under item 1(c) for an examination during the previous 23 complete calendar months, other than where the dentist is claiming under item 1(c)(iv);
6. no fee shall be payable under items 1(c) or 1(f)(i) for an examination of a patient for whom the domiciliary care dentist receives, or is entitled to receive, a payment under item 1(e).
7. no fee shall be payable under item 1(e) for an examination of a patient for whom the same dentist was paid, or in respect of which the same dentist was paid, or is entitled to be paid, a fee under item 1(e) for an examination during the previous 5 complete calendar months.

Orthodontic Provisos to Item 1:

Where fees are claimed on form GP 17(O) (or electronic equivalent) in connection with orthodontic treatment only:

1. a fee under items 1(c), 1(f)(ii), or 1(g) shall be payable only to, or in respect of, the dentist responsible for orthodontic treatment (see Note);
2. only one examination fee shall be payable to, or in respect of, the same dentist during the same course of treatment;
3. no fee shall be payable under item 1(f)(ii) for an examination of a patient for whom the same dentist was paid, or in respect of which the same dentist was paid, or is entitled to be paid, a fee under items 1(a), 1(b), 1(c), 1(f)(ii), or 1(g) during the previous 23 complete calendar months;
4. no fee under item 1(g) shall be payable for an examination of a patient for whom the same dentist was paid, or in respect of which the same dentist was paid, or is entitled to be paid, a fee under items 1(a), 1(b), 1(c), 1(f)(ii), or 1(g) the previous 5 complete calendar months;
5. no fee under item 1(c) shall be payable for an examination of a patient for whom the same dentist was paid, or in respect of which the same dentist was paid, or is entitled to be paid, a fee under item 1(c) during the previous 23 complete calendar months;
6. where a patient is receiving a course of orthodontic treatment no fee under items 1(c) or 1(g) shall be payable where no permanent teeth are present;
7. no fee under item 1(c) shall be payable unless study casts, and radiographs where appropriate, are available;
8. where orthodontic treatment only is provided any claim under items 1(c), 1(f)(ii), or 1(g) must be made on form GP 17(O);
9. when the dentist who will be providing the orthodontic treatment examines the patient on the first occasion and considers that active treatment will not be required for at least 6 months, a fee under item 1(f)(ii) would be payable on completion of a GP17(O). The reason why orthodontic treatment is not being provided at that time should be given;
10. no fee shall be payable under item 1(c) for the examination of a patient for whom the same dentist was paid, or in respect of which the same dentist was paid, or is entitled to be paid, a fee under items 1(f)(ii) or 1(g) during the previous 5 complete calendar months.

NOTE: Where a dentist is responsible for a patient's general care and undertakes orthodontic treatment, claims under item 1(c) on form GP 17(O) shall not preclude concurrent claims under item 1(f)(i) on form GP 17.

Consequential amendments to SDR items other than item 1

Provisos to Item 2:

1. In cases of orthodontic treatment, a fee under item 2(b) shall only be payable:
 - where the dentist is responsible for orthodontic treatment and a fee under items 1(g) [clinical examination] or 1(f)(ii) [extensive clinical examination] is payable and the patient has permanent teeth and no fee has previously been paid under this item; or
 - where a fee under item 1(c) [full case assessment] is also payable; or
 - where casts are required by a hospital in respect of a patient referred for advice or treatment; or

- where casts are required by the Board;
2. where the patient is under 18 years of age no more than 2 fees shall be payable for radiographs under item 2(a)(4) unless the prior approval of the Board is obtained;
 3. a fee under item 2(c) shall only be payable to a dentist accepting orthodontic referrals from another dentist;
 4. no fee under item 2(b) shall be payable for a digital equivalent of a duplicate study cast.

Provisos to Item 10:

1. only one fee under any one of items 10(a), 10(b) or 10(c) shall be payable during the same course of treatment;
2. a fee under items 10(a) or 10(b) shall only be payable either in connection with treatment under items 1(c) [examination] or 1(f)(i) [extensive clinical examination] or where a fee under items 1(a), 1(b), 1(c), or 1(f)(i) is payable or has been paid to, or in respect of, the same dentist, or to any other dentist who has taken over responsibility for the care and treatment of the patient, including the records of the patient, during the previous 11 complete calendar months;
3. no fee under items 10(b) or 10(c) shall be payable if a fee has been paid, or is payable, to, or in respect of, the same dentist for treatment provided under items 10(b) or 10(c) during the previous 9 complete calendar months;
4. a fee under item 10(c) shall only be payable where the same dentist has been paid, or in respect of which the same dentist has been paid, or is entitled to be paid, a fee for treatment provided under item 1(c) [full case assessment] for that patient in the previous 23 complete calendar months;
5. a fee under item 10(c) shall only be payable where appropriate radiographs are available.

Section X — Treatment under Capitation

41. **Capitation Payments:** Fees for patients aged under 18 years and accepted into capitation:

41(a)(i) Aged 0-2 years (inclusive) - basic fee for the provision of care under capitation, including all necessary preventative measures not already included elsewhere in this fee scale:

	Dentist's Fee	Patient's Charge
per month	£2.15	(£0.00)

41(a)(ii) This item has been deleted.

41(a)(iii) Aged 3-5 years (inclusive) - basic fee for the provision of care under capitation, including all necessary preventive measures not already included elsewhere in this fee scale:

per month	£2.85	(£0.00)
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41(a)(iv) This item has been deleted.

41(a)(v) This item has been deleted.

41(a)(vi) Aged 6-17 years (inclusive) - basic fee for the provision of care under capitation, including all necessary preventive measures not already included elsewhere in this fee scale:

6-12 year	per month	£5.00	(£0.00)
13-17 years	per month	£6.45	(£0.00)

41(b) Where the patient has a severe mental or physical disability or severe learning difficulties and where, to provide treatment, it is necessary for the dentist to spend at least double the normal amount of time for a patient of the same age:

per month double the appropriate basic fee item 41(a)(i), 41(a)(iii) and 41(a)(vi) (no patient charge)

41(c) This item has been deleted.

41(d) This item has been deleted.

41(e) Where the patient's postcode of residence is in a Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) area 1 the dentist or contractor shall receive an addition to the capitation fee paid monthly in arrears:

per month [£0.25] (no patient charge)

Provisos to Item 41:

- no fee shall be payable to the same dentist under items 41(a)(i), 41(a)(iii), 41(a)(vi) and 41(b) for the same patient;
- where necessary to secure or maintain oral health, additional fees shall be payable to the same dentist under the following items: 1(d) [care and treatment summary], 1(f)(i) [extensive clinical examination], 2(a)(i) [radiographs], 2(b) [study casts], 3 [clinical photographs], 14 [permanent fillings], 15(a), 15(b) and 15(c) [endodontics], 16 [veneers], 17 [inlays and crowns], 18 [bridges], 21 [extractions], 22 [extractions of special difficulty and other oral surgery], 23(a)(1) [arrest of haemorrhage], 25 [sedations], 27(b) and 27(c) [provision of dentures], 27(e) [special trays], 27(f) [identification marker],

28(a) [repairs to dentures], 28(c) [relining and rebasing dentures], 28(d) [additions to dentures], 29 [appliances], 32 [orthodontics], 35 [domiciliary visits and recalled attendance], 43 and 44 [treatment special to minors], 53(a)(1) [arrest of haemorrhage], 62 [incomplete dentures], 63(e) and 63(f) [incomplete endodontic treatment], 64 [incomplete porcelain veneers], 65 [incomplete crowns], 73 [any other incomplete treatment—where lab cost is involved] and, when in connection with orthodontic treatment, 1(c) [examination], 1(f)(ii) [extensive clinical examination], or 1(g) [examination] and 2 [radiographs];

3. where necessitated by trauma [see paragraph (1) of Section I—Interpretation], additional fees shall be payable for all items of treatment provided;
4. no fee shall be payable under item 41 for a patient in respect of whom the same dentist is providing occasional treatment or treatment on referral from another dentist;
5. a fee under item 41(e) shall only be paid in respect of an eligible patient for whom a full and valid postcode has been provided;
6. where the dentist has not submitted a payment claim form in respect of a patient for 3 years or more any of the fees payable under item 41(a)(i), 41(a)(iii), 41(a)(vi), 41(b) or 41(e) shall be reduced to 20% of the relevant fee.

42. Childsmile:

Aged 0-17 (inclusive) – fee according to the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) of the patient’s postcode of residence to include:

Recording preventive care to Childsmile Practice standards as described in the Memorandum to NHS: PCA(D)(2011)(5); and

Toothbrushing instructions: the demonstration of the appropriate toothbrushing instruction technique to the patient, or the patient’s parent or carer, then supervising the patient or carer whilst they brush the patient’s teeth with a toothbrush and at least 1000ppm fluoride toothpaste; and

Dietary advice: relevant dietary advice targeted to the patient’s specific requirements as directed by the caries risk assessment including, when appropriate, diet diaries.

		Dentist's Fee	Patient's Charge
4201	[TS]	£18.60	(£0.00)
	SIMD 1-2 per child		
4202	[TS]	£6.10	(£0.00)
	SIMD 3-5 per child		

Provisos to Item 42

1. No fee shall be payable under item 42 where the same dentist was paid, or is entitled to be paid, a fee under item 42 within the previous 11 complete calendar months;
2. A fee under item 42 shall only be paid in respect of an eligible patient for whom a full and valid postcode has been provided. If a full and valid postcode has not been provided then no fee under item 42 shall be payable.

43. Treatment Special to Minors: Resin filling, including acid etch retention in permanent molar and pre-molar teeth in a patient under 15 years of age at the beginning of a course of treatment:

		Dentist's Fee	Patient's Charge
4301	[TS]	£20.45	(£0.00)
	per tooth		
4302	[TS]	£31.90	(£0.00)
	per tooth where the mesio-occlusal and/or disto-occlusal surfaces are involved		

Proviso to Item 43

No fee shall be payable under item 43 to repair or replace a filling where the same dentist provided the original filling to the same tooth within the previous 11 complete calendar months unless the repair or replacement is required as a result of trauma.

44. **Treatment Special to Minors:** Conservative treatment of deciduous teeth in patients under 18 years of age at the beginning of a course of treatment:

44(a) Filling including any dressing, pulp capping and pin or screw or acid etch retention and other preparatory treatment, but excluding associated treatment appropriate to item 44(c) and 44(d):

4401 [TS] **per tooth** **£9.70** (£0.00)

44(b) Conservation of a molar with a preformed metal cap inclusive of all preparation in connection therewith, including dressings, pulp cappings and pin or screw or acid etch retention, but excluding associated treatment in connection with item 44(c):

4402 [TS] **per tooth** **£25.45** (£0.00)

44(c) Amputation of the coronal portion of the vital pulp, including any necessary dressing:

4403 [TS] **per tooth** **£10.20** (£0.00)

44(d) Non vital pulpotomy including any necessary dressing:

4404 [TS] **per tooth** **£19.35** (£0.00)

44(e) In connection with treatment on referral: filling including any dressing, pulp capping and pin or screw or acid etch retention and other preparatory treatment, but excluding associated treatment appropriate to item 44(c) and 44(d):

4405 [TS] **per tooth** **£17.20** (£0.00)

44(f) Application of fissure sealants as a primary preventive measure to pits and fissures of unfilled permanent molar teeth within 2 years of their eruption:

4406 [TS] **per tooth** **£9.70** (£0.00)

44(g) Application of topical fluoride to all tooth surfaces where the patient is aged 2-12 years (inclusive):

4407 **per full mouth application** **£7.25** (£0.00)

Proviso to Item 44:

1. no fee under item 44(e) shall be payable where a fee has been paid, or is payable, to, or in respect of, the same dentist under item 41;
2. only one fee under item 44(f) shall be payable for the same tooth by the same dentist;
3. no fee under item 44(g) shall be payable where a fee has been paid, or is payable, to, or in respect of, the same dentist for treatment provided under item 44(g) in the previous 5 complete calendar months;
4. no fee shall be payable under item 44(a), 44(b) or 44(e) to repair or replace a filling or crown where the

same dentist provided the original filling or crown to the same tooth within the previous 11 complete calendar months unless the repair or replacement is required as a result of trauma.
