

Dear Colleague

Summary

1. The Memorandum to this letter provides dentists and dental bodies corporate (DBC's) with further information regarding the e-dental programme for the electronic submission of payment claims and prior approval requests.

Action

2. NHS Boards are asked to issue the Memorandum to this letter to all dentists and DBC's on their dental lists.

Yours sincerely,

TOM FERRIS
Chief Dental Officer (Interim)

25 February 2019

Addresses

For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards

Director, Practitioner Services

Interim Directors of Dentistry

For information

Chief Executive,
NHS National Services Scotland

Chief Executive,
NHS Education for Scotland

E-Dental Programme Board
Members

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

**ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF PAYMENT CLAIMS AND PRIOR APPROVAL
REQUESTS: UPDATE REPORT**

Summary

1. This Memorandum provides a position report on the Scottish Government's e-dental programme for the electronic submission of payment claims and prior approval.

Background

2. In 2017 the National Health Service (General Dental Services) (Scotland) Regulations 2010 were amended to allow a phased programme of change to require electronic submission of payment claims and prior approval requests as follows:

- **Phase 1** - all payment claim forms, with the exception of claims for orthodontic treatment, electronic by 1 January 2018;
- **Phase 2** - all requests for prior approval, with the exception of orthodontic prior approval requests, electronic by 1 October 2018;
- **Phase 3** - all orthodontic payment claim forms and requests for prior approval electronic by 1 January 2020 (deferred from 1 January 2019).

Electronic Submission of Payment Claims and Prior Approval Requests: Update Report

Non-Orthodontic Payment Claims and Prior Approval Requests

3. Phase 1 of the programme, the electronic submission of payment claims and prior approval requests, excluding orthodontic treatment, has been completed.

4. Phase 2 of the programme, electronic prior approval excluding orthodontic treatment, has largely been completed to schedule. Practitioner Services have been advised that a solution should be available to Caresteam Dental practices during the summer of 2019. We would advise that you should contact your software supplier for further information.

5. In the meantime affected practices should continue to use the web form. Practitioner Services are currently working on providing additional guidance to support web form users.

Orthodontic Payment Claims and Prior Approval Requests

6. The Memorandum to NHS: PCA(D)(2018)(11) advised that phase 3 of the programme, orthodontic electronic payment claims and requests for prior approval, was being deferred by 12 months. This was to allow additional development time for specialist orthodontic software suppliers and general dental software suppliers to provide orthodontic solutions.

7. While some software suppliers are at various stages of development, others have failed to provide a written commitment or have signalled that they do not intend to provide an orthodontic software solution. More information may be found at:

<https://nhsnss.org/blog-news/articles/update-on-edental-payment-and-prior-approval-modernisation-project-january-2019/>

8. **We would strongly advise then that orthodontic specialist practices and practices that provide some orthodontic care and treatment should contact their respective software suppliers immediately to confirm they will meet this requirement.** From 1 January 2020 paper-based payment claims and requests for prior approval will not be allowable. Practices should also note that there will be no web-based solution for orthodontic claims and prior approval.

Orthodontic Event Hosted by Practitioner Services

9. In view of these developments, Practitioner Services are in the process of organising an orthodontic event on 15 April 2019 for specialist orthodontic practices to hear from system suppliers about their plans. The following link provides details about how to book a place on the event:

<https://book.shsc.scot/orthodonticengagement>

Enquiries

10. Please contact your Director of Dentistry if you have any queries relating to this update.

Scottish Government Population Health Directorate
25 February 2019