

# Public Dental Service Guidance Remobilisation of NHS Dental Services

Practitioner Services

## **Stepping up services to provide aerosol generating procedures (AGPs) in practice**

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Document purpose

This document provides guidance on submissions for the Public Dental Service (PDS) and Urgent Dental Care Centres (UDCC) and provides an update around NHS Boards stepping up their delivery of routine care across their Board area. On Thursday 30 July 2020, after the First Minister’s announcement, the Chief Dental Officer advised in his [CDO letter](#) that from Monday 17 August 2020, dentists can if they wish, and with the agreement of their NHS Board, provide a limited range of AGPs for NHS patients in need of urgent oral health care. This effectively replicates in practice, the current arrangements in urgent dental care centres.

## 1.2 Where we are now

NHS Boards have been operating under UDCC through earlier phases, but may also have been recently starting to reintroduce routine care in their PDS.

## 1.3 Activity by Service

To provide NHS Boards with clarity on some important aspects of activity submission, it needs to be understood what activity can be undertaken by each service. The following table depicts this against SDR section headings, specifically for NHS Board services. A new section of the SDR, *Section IX(b) – Urgent Dental Care for Registered Patients*, has been introduced which outlines those AGP items for urgent care which are applicable to registered PDS patients too. As PSD non GDS is a different service and the locus is on recording activity, all items in the SDR are available, with the exception of registration as shown in the table below. A reminder that triage codes are applicable irrespective of the service.

|   | PDS GDS    |                | PDS non GDS | UDCC |
|---|------------|----------------|-------------|------|
|   | Registered | Not registered |             |      |
| Section II - Diagnosis  | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           | ✗    |
| Section III - Preventive Care   | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           | ✗    |
| Section IV - Periodontal Treatment  | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           | ✗    |
| Section V - Conservative Treatment  | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           | ✗    |
| Section VI - Surgical Treatment   | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           | ✗    |
| Section VII - Prostheses, Obturators & other (non Orthodontic) Appliances | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           | ✗    |
| Section VIII - Orthodontic Treatment                                      | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           | ✗    |
| Section IX - Other Forms of Treatment                                     | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           | ✗    |
| Section IX(b)—Urgent Dental Care for Registered Patients                  | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           | ✗    |
| Section X - Treatment under Capitation                                    | ✓          | ✗              | ✗*          | ✗    |
| Section XI - Continuing Care and Patient Management                       | ✓          | ✗              | ✗           | ✗    |
| Section XII(a) - Occasional Treatment                                     | ✗          | ✓              | ✓           | ✓    |
| Section XII(b) - Occasional Treatment - Urgent Dental Care Centre Only    | ✗          | ✗              | ✗           | ✓    |
| Section XV - Triage Activity  | ✓          | ✓              | ✓           | ✓    |

\*with exception of items: 44(A), 44(B), 44(C), 44(D), 44(E), 44(G) which are available under PDS non GDS.

## 2. Urgent Dental Care Centres (UDCC)

### 2.1 When to use UDCC

Following the introduction of AGPs, there is no change to UDCCs from a submission perspective.

The initial purpose of UDCC was to provide urgent dental care in carefully managed settings to help prevent the spread of Covid-19. The creation of the UDCC was required to deliver emergency services to patients while the GDS was prevented from providing AGP within their premises. This also allowed for provision of PPE to be sourced and allocated directly to a specific number of locations. The situation has changed rapidly over the past few months, and continues to be very fluid.

The availability of treatments within the SDR differs between the UDCC and the coding available to the Public Dental Services, which typically follows the GDS route, which has led to confusion. If you examine the table below, it will outline what parts of the SDR you can and cannot use in a UDCC.

It is for each NHS Board to determine how they operate between their PDS and UDCC settings.

|   | UDCC |
|---|------|
| Section II - Diagnosis  | ✗    |
| Section III - Preventive Care   | ✗    |
| Section IV - Periodontal Treatment  | ✗    |
| Section V - Conservative Treatment  | ✗    |
| Section VI - Surgical Treatment   | ✗    |
| Section VII - Prostheses, Obturators & other (non Orthodontic) Appliances | ✗    |
| Section VIII - Orthodontic Treatment                                      | ✗    |
| Section IX - Other Forms of Treatment                                     | ✗    |
| Section IX(b)—Urgent Dental Care for Registered Patients                  | ✗    |
| Section X - Treatment under Capitation                                    | ✗    |
| Section XI - Continuing Care and Patient Management                       | ✗    |
| Section XII(a) - Occasional Treatment                                     | ✓    |
| Section XII(b) - Occasional Treatment - Urgent Dental Care Centre Only    | ✓    |
| Section XV - Triage Activity  | ✓    |

### 2.2 UDCC list number

Dentists working within a UDCC have a specific list number(s) to record activity against when treating patients within the UDCC. This list number can be used for any claims with an acceptance date on or after 8 June 2020.

View the [guidance](#) on how the data captured prior to the UDCC list numbers being set up should be submitted.

### 2.3 Patient exemption/remission status

When recording the patient's exemption/remission status, do **not** use 'PDS non GDS' against this list number or your claim submissions will be rejected; the patient's correct status should be recorded.

### 2.4 Patient registration

In the scenario where a patient is registered within the PDS service, and they are being treated at an Urgent Dental Care Centre, the claim would ordinarily be marked as 'Registered with another dentist at this practice' because all list numbers are attached to the one HUB site. We have been made aware that this causes R4+ users an issue because this does not allow the range of occasional treatments available to UDCC to be selected.

Following discussion with Carestream, some investigatory work will be undertaken to determine what would be required to remove this validation going forward. In the interim, where this scenario occurs, NHS Boards should select the option, 'Registered with another dentist at another practice'. This should open up the range of treatment that UDCCs require for selection and therefore allow the claims to be submitted. Once they reach our payment system, Midas, we perform a check to determine if a registration exists, and if so, where the patient is registered. In this scenario, where we find the patient registered to the PDS service, we amend the registration status accordingly. This results in both the payment retaining the items claimed, and ensuring that the patient remains registered with the service.

We will keep you advised of any further developments.

Please note, patients cannot be registered with a UDCC list number.

## 3. Public Dental Services (PDS)

### 3.1 Public Dental Service (PDS) routine care

As more NHS Boards re-introduced routine PDS services, activity should now be submitted under an individual's existing PDS list number. When using the PDS list number, use 'PDS non GDS' flag for any PDS non GDS activity.

The table below highlights what treatment can be undertaken within the SDR by the PDS service, depending on the activity type, and within PDS GDS specifically, whether a patient is registered to the PDS or not. As PSD non GDS is a different service and the locus is on recording activity, all items in the SDR are available, with the exception of registration.

As a reminder, treatment cannot be a mixed between UDCC, PDS GDS and PDS non GDS on the same submission. The nature of PDS non GDS is that it will be in a different setting, and therefore different rules apply.

|   | PDS GDS    |                | PDS non GDS |
|---|------------|----------------|-------------|
|   | Registered | Not registered |             |
| Section II - Diagnosis  | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           |
| Section III - Preventive Care   | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           |
| Section IV - Periodontal Treatment  | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           |
| Section V - Conservative Treatment  | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           |
| Section VI - Surgical Treatment   | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           |
| Section VII - Prostheses, Obturators & other (non Orthodontic) Appliances | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           |
| Section VIII - Orthodontic Treatment                                      | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           |
| Section IX - Other Forms of Treatment                                     | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           |
| Section IX(b)—Urgent Dental Care for Registered Patients                  | ✓          | ✗              | ✓           |
| Section X - Treatment under Capitation                                    | ✓          | ✗              | ✗*          |
| Section XI - Continuing Care and Patient Management                       | ✓          | ✗              | ✗           |
| Section XII(a) - Occasional Treatment                                     | ✗          | ✓              | ✓           |
| Section XII(b) - Occasional Treatment - Urgent Dental Care Centre Only    | ✗          | ✗              | ✗           |
| Section XV - Triage Activity  | ✓          | ✓              | ✓           |

\*with exception of items: 44(A), 44(B), 44(C), 44(D), 44(E), 44(G) which are available under PDS non GDS.

### 3.2 Patient exemption/remission status

The patient's correct status should be recorded for PDS GDS. Continue the existing procedure for PDS non GDS which were in place prior to lockdown.

### 3.3 Patient registration

There is no change to how the patient registration details should be entered, and NHS Boards should continue to follow their existing procedures which were in place prior to lockdown.

New patients may also be registered into the PDS GDS service.

Registration does not apply to non GDS.

### 3.4 Prison Service

Previously all activity undertaken at prisons would have fallen under the PDS non GDS setting. However, some prisons are designated as a UDCC so that the correct provisions for PPE can be made. Additional UDCC list numbers were needed for some NHS Boards with a prison. Some arrangements may differ depending on the existing set up of the NHS Boards, therefore Boards should follow the process for either the UDCC or PDS depending which is most appropriate to their needs.

Where activity is being recorded as UDCC, please follow the guidance in [section 2](#). Where the activity is being recorded as PDS, please follow the guidance in [section 3](#).

In addition, for prisons characterised as a UDCC list number type, the status 'PDS non GDS' cannot be used with the list number type of UDCC, so use 'fee paying' until further notice, as the SDRS since 144 onwards have £0 patient charge. When selecting the patient registration status, as patients are not registered to the prison dentist, the only options that should be used are:

- 'Occasional' because the patient is not registered or
- 'Registered with another dentist at another practice' where the patient is registered at a general dental practice elsewhere.

If there has been any prison activity undertaken between the start of lockdown and 22 June 2020, this activity needs to be discussed with PSD (if required). To initiate this discussion, please email [Nss.psd-bus-improvement@nhs.scot](mailto:Nss.psd-bus-improvement@nhs.scot) with some background information on this activity, in particular how this activity may have been recorded.