



Dental Schedule Communications

**Public Services Delivery
Scotland**



**August paid
September
2026**

Welcome to the Schedule Communications where you will find all our latest news and useful information.

Access the schedule close dates and prior approval timescales [here](#)

September paid October 2026 cut-off date: Monday 5 October at 5pm.

Dental Reform – Prior Approval for General Dentistry

Current Status of the Project

We continue to make great progress towards the implementation of Prior Approval for General Dentistry, with the vast majority of testing completed during August and only a small amount of activity carrying into September. We are also continuing to publish and update Practice Management Supplier (PMS) delivery timelines on our [website](#), most recently on 4 September. These timelines provide practices with clear visibility of supplier progress and key milestones as implementation approaches.

We remain in regular contact with PMS suppliers and are working closely with them as they progress through the final stages of development and testing. As the table on the website demonstrates, there is significant supplier activity taking place this month, with several suppliers progressing through system testing and more expected to move into Fit for Purpose testing and Accreditation. This strong level of activity reflects the continued momentum across the project and the commitment of suppliers to achieving implementation readiness. We have successfully completed Fit for Purpose testing with our first PMS suppliers and have now moved into the accreditation phase. Fit for Purpose testing is the first stage of assurance testing, followed by accreditation testing, which validates specific business scenarios. Together, these stages provide growing confidence that PMS systems will be fully prepared to support the submission of both new and existing cases from the 1 November implementation date.

Alongside this, we are working closely with our IT supplier, Atos, on implementation planning to help ensure a smooth and seamless transition. While there will be a period of downtime during implementation, we will provide advance notice to allow practices to plan accordingly. Teams across the programme continue to make strong progress in developing and refining procedures and processes, and training activity is now underway, with sessions being scheduled to meet the differing needs of our teams.

The e-learning module, which will be available on TURAS, has now been completed and is undergoing final IT testing ahead of release. Development of guidance materials to support practices in preparing for the new arrangements is also progressing well and remains on track for publication by the end of September, alongside the updated Discretionary Fee Guide. PMS suppliers have already been provided with error messages to support their development work, and the version for publication on our website is expected to be released closer to implementation to ensure it aligns with when practices may begin encountering these messages.

Continuation of Care for Treatment Started by a Vocational Trainee

The following information aims to support the correct administration of claims that cannot be completed before the end of a vocational training period.

If a course of treatment has been started by a Vocational Trainee (VT) and it remains incomplete at the end of their training period, you should follow one of the two processes below:

1. **Keep the course of treatment open** so it can be completed by the next VT using the same VT list number under the supervision of the same trainer; or
2. **Follow the continuation case process** where the treatment will be completed under a different list number.

When to keep the course of treatment open

You should keep the course of treatment open if the list number continuing the treatment will **stay the same** (i.e. where the same list number will be used for the next VT). If you are unsure whether a course of treatment will be continued under the same VT List Number, please consult your trainer or practice manager before making any changes to the treatment plan.

When to follow the Continuation Case Process

You should follow the continuation case process if the course of treatment will be continued under a **different list number**. For example, this will apply where the VT becomes an associate at the same practice and will continue the treatment under their new associate list number.

Once a course of treatment has been sent for payment it cannot be re-opened or retrospectively marked as a 'continuation case'. It is therefore important to determine the correct approach before submitting the claim.

For more information on how continuation cases work, please consult our [general continuation case guidance](#). You can also contact our help desk for guidance.

Rent Reimbursement – GP234 Reminder

The deadline for the rent reimbursement for all four quarters of the financial year 2026/2027 has now passed.

If you have missed this deadline, you can still submit the form for part payment of 2026/2027 practice rental costs as follows:

- 30 November 2026 for quarter 4 only

Please ensure you use the most up to date GP234 form, which you can find on our website: [Apply for rates and rental reimbursement | National Services Scotland](#)

The practitioner's accountant must complete part 3 of the form. The GP234 form must be stamped. If your accountant does not have a stamp, then a confirmation on headed paper is acceptable. A business card would not be acceptable. Please submit your application by email to: nss.psd-dental-payments@nhs.scot

Helpdesk Closure September Public Holiday

The dental helpdesk will be closed on Monday 14 September for the public holiday. It will reopen at 8.30am on Tuesday 15 September 2026



Telephone: 0345 034 2458 | e-mail: nss.psddental@nhs.scot

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