



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Health Department
Directorate of Service Policy & Planning

St Andrew's House
Regent Road
EDINBURGH
EH1 3DG

Dear Colleague

GENERAL DENTAL SERVICES

CLINICAL AUDIT

Summary

1. The Memorandum to this letter reminds dentists that it is a terms of service requirement that they undertake 15 hours of clinical audit activities during each 3 year period.

Action

- NHS Boards and Primary Care Trusts are asked to note the contents of the Memorandum to this letter.
- Copies of the Memorandum to this letter are being sent under separate cover for **urgent** distribution to all dentists on NHS Board/Primary Care Trust lists.

Yours sincerely

DR HAMISH WILSON
Primary Care Division

7 August 2003

Addresses

For action

Chief Executives, Primary Care
Trusts
and NHS Boards

For information

Chief Executive,
Common Services Agency

Director,
Practitioner Services

Chief Executive,
NHS Education for Scotland

Enquiries to:

Lynne Morrison
Directorate of Service Policy &
Planning
Primary Care Division
1 East Rear
St Andrew's House
EDINBURGH
EH1 3DG

Tel: 0131-244 2466

Fax: 0131-244 2326

email:

Lynne.A.Morrison@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk>



**DENTISTS
NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE
GENERAL DENTAL SERVICES**

CLINICAL AUDIT

1. This Memorandum reminds dentists that it is a terms of service requirement that they undertake 15 hours of clinical audit activities.
2. The Memorandum to [NHS: 2002 PCA\(D\)2](#), issued on 11 March 2002, advised dentists that with effect from 1 April 2002 it would be a requirement that all dentists (principals, assistants and vocational trainees) who provide general dental services take part in at least 15 hours of clinical audit during each 3 year period. Principal dentists were advised that they would be expected to take reasonable steps to ensure that their assistants also undertake clinical audit activities.
3. Schedule 1 to the National Health Service (General Dental Services) (Scotland) Regulations 1996 was amended, with effect from 1 April 2002, to make participation in clinical audit a terms of service requirement. A copy of the NHS (General Dental Services and Dental Charges) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2002 was sent to dentists.
4. Where a dentist's name was included in a NHS Board/Primary Care Trust's dental list and he is providing general dental services:
 - 4.1 on 1 April 2002, he will require to have undertaken 15 hours of clinical audit by 31 March 2005;
 - 4.2 from a date after 1 April 2002, he will require to have undertaken 15 hours of clinical audit by the end of the 3 year period commencing on the date he joined the list.
5. Projects for which a clinical audit allowance can be claimed require to be approved by a Regional Assessment Panel of NHS Education for Scotland. Form GP216 (project approval and completion), which can be obtained from NHS Boards/Primary Care Trusts or local Postgraduate Centres, should be completed initially and sent to the dentist's local Postgraduate Centre for approval by the Regional Audit Assessment Panel. This form should then be returned to the dentist's Regional Audit Assessment Panel on completion of the project for certification that the project has been completed satisfactorily.
6. A claim for a clinical audit allowance can be made on form GP217 (application for a clinical audit allowance, which can be obtained from NHS Boards/Primary Care Trusts. Completed form GP217 should be sent to Practitioner Services (Dental), together with the certification of completion.
7. Full details of the clinical audit allowance are contained in Determination XI to the Statement of Dental Remuneration.

8. Any enquiries arising from this Memorandum should be taken up with your NHS Board/Primary Care Trust.

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE HEALTH DEPARTMENT
7 August 2003