

Guidance on Remobilisation of NHS Dental Services and the revised SDR Determination I (Amendment 144)

Background

[PCA\(D\)\(2020\)9](#) issued by Scottish Government on 15 June 2020 is centred on preparing practices to resume treating patients on a phased basis.

Phase 1: Increasing capacity in Urgent Dental Care Centres (UDCCs);

Phase 2: All NHS dental practices will open to face-to-face consultation with patients who require urgent dental care that can be provided using non-aerosol generating procedures (AGPs);

Phase 3: As phase 2, but in addition practices will see patients for routine care, including examination and treatments that can be provided using non-AGPs;

Phase 4: Introduction of some AGPs to dental practices.

Purpose of this document

This document provides guidance on the treatment that can be carried out by NHS General Dental Practitioners and Urgent Dental Care Centres, along with details of the new triage codes within SDR144 that should be recorded. It also provides information on other areas, including the suspension of patient and patient representative signatures, prior approval and your supplier making their new software available.

Where are we now?

Phase 2 is the immediate focus and NHS dental practices will be able to re-open one surgery from a date to be announced by the Scottish Government. A new restricted Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR) will be published with details of the treatments that can be carried out. SDR144 will be effective from the date specified by the Scottish Government and will be available to view on <http://www.scottishdental.org/>.

For all claims with an acceptance date on or after the date specified by the Scottish Government, the guidance below must be followed.

Triage of patients

When patients contact the practice and triage is carried out, this activity should be recorded.

A new section has been added to SDR144 for 'Triage Activity', with nine new codes added under item 80. The code appropriate to the result of the patient's triage must be added to each claim. It is possible an item 80 code will be the only item on a claim, as you may not be able to carry out the treatment necessary.

The new 'Triage Activity' codes are:

Item No.	Item description	Explanation	For use by NHS GDS or UDCC	Code	Suffix
80[a]	Initial telephone call triaging	Patient makes contact by telephone and discussion takes place with patient to determine the issues they are experiencing	Both	8001	01

80[b]	Advice and closing the case	Providing only advice to the patient, treatment is deemed not necessary and the case is closed	Both	8011	01
80[c]	Advice and a prescription - antibiotics and or analgesics Closing the Case	Providing advice to the patient, where face to face treatment is deemed not necessary but a prescription for antibiotics and or analgesics is provided and the case is closed	Both	8021	01
80[d]	Appointment for treatment arranged (further Covid triaging to determine status) Red Covid Positive	Appointment arranged with an Urgent Dental Care Centre for a patient who has tested positive for Covid-19, or has symptoms of coronavirus, is quarantined or is part of a household where someone has symptoms of coronavirus	Urgent Dental Care Centres only	8031	01
80[e]	Appointment for treatment arranged (further Covid triaging to determine status) Green Covid Positive	Appointment arranged for a patient who has no symptoms of coronavirus, is not quarantined and is in a household where no-one has symptoms of coronavirus	Both	8041	01
80[f]	Appointment visit (treatment) aerosol generating procedure	Appointment visit is required at an Urgent Dental Care Centre due to the need for treatment involving an aerosol generating procedure, but patient has decided not to accept the appointment	Both	8051	01
80[g]	Non aerosol procedure	Providing a non-aerosol generated procedure	Both	8061	01
80[h]	Unable to deliver case - Phobia/Co-operation/Consent issue	Patient has attended for treatment and staff have donned PPE to carry out treatment, but due to issues with the patient's phobia/ cooperation/consent no treatment was provided	Both	8071	01
80[i]	Aerosol generated procedure	Have treated patient using an aerosol generated procedure	Urgent Dental Care Centres only	8081	01

What treatments can be carried out?

The new SDR144 details the limited treatments that can be carried out. This SDR must be followed regardless of the setting in which you provide NHS dental treatment, ie General Dental Services (GDS) or Public Dental Service (PDS). The items of treatment and codes in SDR144 retain the same numbers as previous SDR's, as you will be familiar with these.

If you attempt to submit any item that is no longer allowable under the new SDR144, your claim will be rejected.

What treatments can be carried out in an NHS General Dental Practice setting?

Only the treatments listed within the following sections of SDR144 may be carried out by dentists treating patients registered to a dentist in their practice:

Section II - Diagnosis

- Examination: 1(A)
- Radiographs: 2(A)(1), 2(A)(2), 2(A)(3), 2(A)(4)
- Photographs: 3(A)

Section V – Conservative Treatment

- Fillings: 14(C)(2)(1) and 14(G)(1)
- Temporary crowns: 17(G)(1) and 17(G)(2)
- Recementing or refixing a crown: 17(K)Crown
- Recementing or refixing an inlay: 17(K)Inlay
- Recementing or refixing a bridge: 18(G)(1) and 18(G)(2)

Section VI – Surgical Treatment

- Extractions: 21(1), 21(2)
- Arrest of haemorrhage: 23(A)(1), 23(A)(2), 23(B)

Section VII – Prostheses, Obturators and Other (Non-Orthodontic) Appliances

- Repairs and alterations to dentures: 28(A)(1), 28(A)(4)Additional, 28(B)(1), 28(C)(3)
- Splints: 29(C)(1)

Section VIII – Orthodontic Treatment

- Repairs to orthodontic appliances: 32(C)(1), 32(C)(2), 32(C)(3), 32(C)(4), 32(C)Additional

Section IX – Other Forms of Treatment

- Stoning/smoothing: 36(B)
- Sensitive cementum/dentine: 36(D)
- Issue of prescription: 36(E)
- Re-implantation of luxated tooth: 36(F)
- Removal of fractured portion of crown: 36(G)
- Urgent treatment for acute conditions: 37

Section X – Treatment under Capitation

- Childsmile: 41(A)(ii)(2), 41(a)(v)
- Treatment special to minors: 44(A)

Section XV – Triage Activity

- 80(A), 80(B), 80(C), 80(D), 80(E), 80(F), 80(G), 80(H), 80(I)

Only the treatment listed within the following section of SDR144 may be carried out by dentists treating patients that are **NOT** registered to them or a dentist in their practice:

Section XII(a) – Occasional Treatment

- Assessment and advice: 47(A)
- Issue of prescription: 48
- Radiographs: 49(A), 49(B), 49(C), 49(D)
- Photographs: 49(E)
- Dressing and palliative treatment: 50(A)(1), 50(A)(2), 50(B), 50(E)(1), 50(G)(1), 50(H), 50(I)(1), 50(I)(2)
- Inlays, crowns, bridges: 51(A)(1), 51(A)(2), 51(C)(1), 51(C)(2), 51(D)(1), 51(D)(2)
- Extractions: 52(1), 52(2)
- Post operative care: 53(A)(1), 53(A)(2), 53(B)
- Repairs/alterations to dentures: 55(A)(1), 55(A)(4), 55(B)(1), 55(C)(3), 55(E)(1), 55(E)(2), 55(E)(3), 55(E)(4), 55(E)Additional
- Acute conditions: 56
- Conservative treatment: 58(C)(2)(1), 58(E)(1)
- Treatment special to minors: 60(A)

Section XV – Triage Activity

- 80(A), 80(B), 80(C), 80(D), 80(E), 80(F), 80(G), 80(H), 80(I)

What treatments can be carried out by Urgent Dental Care Centres?

Treatment listed within the following section of SDR144 can only be carried out by Urgent Dental Care Centres:

Section XII(a) – Occasional Treatment

- As above

Section XII(b) – Occasional Treatment – Urgent Dental Care Centre Only

- Dressing: 50(C)(1), 50(C)(2), 50(D)(1), 50(G)(2), 50(G)(3)Additional
- Extraction: 52(B)(1), 52(B)(2)(1), 52(B)(2)(2), 52(B)(2)(3), 52(B)(2)(4)
- Domiciliary/recalled attendance: 57(A)(1), 57(A)(2), 57(A)(3)
- Conservative treatment: 58(B)(1), 58(B)(2), 58(B)(3), 58(B)(4), 58(C)(1)(1), 58(D), 58(F)(1), 58(F)(2), 58(F)(3)
- Treatment special to minors: 60(B), 60(C), 60(D)

Section XV – Triage Activity

- 80(A), 80(B), 80(C), 80(D), 80(E), 80(F), 80(G), 80(H), 80(I)

Recording treatment and submissions

All the items within SDR144 have a monetary value of £0.00, however, all treatment carried out must still be recorded in your practice system. You must also submit electronic claims to Practitioner Services for all treatment carried out, including the new 'Triage Activity' codes.

What should I do for a patient with an open course of treatment?

The open course of treatment should remain open in your practice management system until further guidance has been issued by the Scottish Government.

For patients being seen under SDR144, you should open a new course of treatment to record the treatment carried out (including the new triage codes) and mark that treatment as closed.

Patient's signature

In order to avoid any unnecessary contact, patients are not required to sign for their treatment. This includes both the paper and electronic versions of the GP17(PR) and GP17(PR)(O) forms. You should complete the patient's signature on their behalf, using a Covid specific description, ie 'Covid 19 urgent NHS dental care'.

Patient status and registration

You will be expected to record the patient's exemption/remission status as usual, irrespective of the fact the item of service charge and patient charge are zero.

As all the items within SDR144 have a monetary value of £0.00, the patient charge for all items is also £0.00.

Patients should not be charged for any treatment carried out under SDR144, due to a reduced level of service being in place at present.

There is no change to how the patient registration details should be entered, you should still select the patient's registration details in the usual way.

Urgent Dental Care Centres (UDCC)

Dentists working within a UDCC will have a new list number and must record activity against this new list number 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.

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.

There is no change to how the patient registration details should be entered, for example, if the patient is registered with the Public Dental Service and is seen in a UDCC, you would select 'Patient is registered with another dentist in the same practice'.

If one dentist carries out the triage and a different dentist carries out the treatment, you can submit the treatment codes and triage codes on the same submission.

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

Changes in the SDR

There are several changes you may notice within SDR144:

- New items under item 80 to record Triage activity;
- New item 49(e) under Occasional Treatment for Colour Photographs;
- Changes in the narratives and provisos for some items;
- Extractions have changed to 'per tooth', as there is no payment associated with the codes;
- This also affects some codes for fillings, which have changed from 'per filling' to 'per tooth', ie code 1426.

Updates to your practice management system (PMS)?

PMS suppliers are aware and are working on the changes.

Visit the [Covid-19 section](#) of our web site to see when your supplier has indicated they will make the update available to you. You will only be able to submit claims for treatment carried out under SDR144 when your supplier has either updated your system or made the update available to you to update your system.

If you get system updates from a download or from a disc, you will need to do this as soon as your supplier informs you the update is ready.

Web form users

The web form has been updated with the new SDR144, so all new codes are available for use.

Prior Approval

None of the individual items within SDR144 require prior approval and all items have a zero value. Any items within SDR144 that used to be discretionary codes, ie 3239 and 3240, are no longer discretionary. Therefore, prior approval has been temporarily suspended.