About this Release

This release provides information on NHS GDS fees paid to dentists and on treatments provided to children and adults during financial year 2011/12.

Key Points

Fees

- The total cost of child and adult item of service fees and registration fees for 2011/12 was over £259 million, an increase of 4% from 2010/11.
- The cost (total fees divided by population) per head of child population increased by £1, from £62 in 2010/11 to £63 in 2011/12. Per head of adult population, cost showed an increase of £2, from £44 to £46.

Treatment

- The number of examinations (all clinical, extensive clinical and full case assessment examinations) carried out by GDS dentists in 2011/12 was over 2.68 million, an increase of over 147,000 (5.5%) from 2010/11.
- The number of teeth extracted by GDS dentists increased by 2.5%, from 531,055 in 2010/11, to 544,901 in 2011/12.
- Other main treatments that saw increases in 2011/12 over the previous year were radiographs, simple and complex periodontal treatments, fillings, root treatments, crowns, dentures, surgical treatments, sedations, orthodontic appliances, domiciliary visits, recalled attendances.
- Decreases were observed in 2011/12 over the previous year in treatments involving veneers, inlays and bridges.
Background
Fees are paid to GDPs for all the individual items of treatment they provide to their patients. In addition, monthly fees are authorised per patient for children registered in capitation and adults registered in continuing care.

The cost per head of child population and per head of adult population in each NHS Board area and region of Scotland is also published, which is derived using the following formula:

- Total item of service earnings + capitation or continuing care payments (numerator) ÷ the most recent GRO population estimate (denominator), with each variable split by children and adults.

NHS GDPs can provide a wide range of dental treatments to their patients, from a simple examination to complex surgical treatment. The Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR) lists all the items of service that GDPs can prescribe and provide.

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Further Information
Further information can be found in the Full Publication Report or on the ISD website