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 2012/13.

Key Points

Fees

- The total cost of child and adult item of service fees and registration fees for 2012/13 was over £265 million, an increase of 1.5% from 2011/12.
- The cost (total fees divided by population) per head of adult population increased from £46 in 2011/12 to £47 in 2012/13. Per head of child population, cost showed a decrease of £1, from £64 to £63.

Treatment

- The number of examinations (all clinical, extensive clinical and full case assessment examinations) carried out by GDS dentists in 2012/13 was over 2.79 million, an increase of 107,307 (4.0%) from 2011/12.
- The number of teeth extracted by GDS dentists decreased by 0.2%, from 544,901 in 2011/12, to 543,574 in 2012/2013.
- Decreases were observed in 2012/13 over the previous year in treatments involving veneers, inlays, bridges, surgical treatments and sedations.
- The main treatments that saw increases in 2012/13 over the previous year were radiographs, simple and complex periodontal treatments, fillings, root treatments, crowns, dentures, orthodontic appliances, domiciliary visits, and recalled attendances.
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 NRS 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.

Note: Due to a minor error in the analysis of fees data for 2011/12 in the May 2012 publication, this 2011/12 data has been revised as of the June 2013 publication. All charts and tables are noted “R” and footnoted where appropriate. This error minimally affects all health boards and the national headline figure for fees for children and adults for FY2011/12: relevant tables and charts. This analysis has also been updated with 2011 mid-year population estimates which were unavailable at the time of original publication. It is determined that these changes are not significant nor would they change the overall interpretation of results by users of the report.

Contact

Stephen Goold
Principal Information Analyst
stephen.goold@nhs.net
0131 275 6316

Diane Stockton
Public Health Specialist
diane.stockton@nhs.net
011 275 6817

Further Information

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

About ISD

Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up. Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

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