Primary Care Dentistry in Scotland

Annual Report 2016/17

A National Statistics publication for Scotland

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About this release

This release from the Information Services Division, published on behalf of the Scottish Dental Practice Board (SDPB), provides an annual update on how primary care dental services are managed and provided in Scotland, and how well these services are operating.

Main Points

- The total cost of provision of General Dental Services and Public Dental Services increased by £2.8 million (0.5%) compared to 2015/16.

Summary of payments and costs; financial years 2015/16 and 2016/17

- £354.9 million was paid to dentists, compared to £349.5 million in the previous year.
- The total value of allowance payments increased by £1.2m (2.1%) compared to 2015/16.
Background

SDPB work in partnership with: Scottish Government, NHS National Services Scotland, NHS Boards, NHS Education for Scotland, and other organisations, to develop the provision of General Dental Services in Scotland. This work includes authorising payment of fees to dentists, carrying out research and analysis into the provision of dental services, and making recommendations to Scottish Government in respect of dental services. SDPB provide Scottish Ministers with this annual report to summarise this activity.

The NHS General Dental Service (GDS) provides a range of treatments to patients and is mostly provisioned by independent ‘high-street’ dentists. The Public Dental Service (PDS) is a merger of the salaried and community dental services and was formed on 1 January 2014. The main role of PDS is to provide GDS for those patients with special care needs.

Contact

Ahmed Mahmoud
Principal Information Analyst
ISD Scotland (Dental and Ophthalmic)
a.mahmoud@nhs.net
0131 275 7555

James McMahon
Information Analyst
ISD Scotland (Dental and Ophthalmic)
j.mcmahon1@nhs.net
0131 275 6016

Further Information

Find out more in the full report which is available to download from our web page.

Information Services Division publishes a wide range of dental statistics. You can find all our dental information at the ISD Dental Website.

Current and historical information on GDS fees and costs is available on the General Dental Service section of our website.

The next release of this publication is expected in January 2019 and will present data as at 31 March 2018 for financial year 2017/18.

ISD and Official Statistics

Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of ‘Official Statistics’. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Further information about our statistics.