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Health Education and
Improvement Wales (HEIW)



Cyfrann Cymru Gyfan ar gyfer
Gweithwyr Proffesiynol Gofal Deiniyddol
All-Wales Faculty for
Dental Care Professionals

Restart of GDS Reform Programme In Wales February 2021

Current situation

Covid-19 virus infections are decreasing in Wales. Most up to date information on COVID19 can be found [HERE](#). Current numbers of patients with Covid-19 in hospital beds continue to put sustained pressure on wider NHS services, at a time, when winter pressures are also having an impact. Due to ongoing high impact of COVID19, a decision has been made to delay the start of the GDS reform programme. Health Boards and dental practices across Wales are facing immense pressures to meet the essential dental care need of local population and we do not feel it is right time to re-start the reform programme on 1st of April 2021.

This does not mean we must stand still during this period. Dental practices need to use this time without the UDA-target to 'reset of service' by stepping up delivery of prevention, widen access wherever possible, particularly for those who need it most but are finding it difficult to get urgent dental treatment and essential dental preventive care to stabilise and maintain oral health.

The most important part dental teams can play in this current situation is by providing urgent dental care and essential prevention and treatment, particularly for those in our most vulnerable communities, so that their dental need does not escalate. Otherwise, dental conditions could add to pressure in other parts of the NHS such as in A&Es and GMS - **Practices should offer urgent dental care to any patient who contacts them. Please note the current SOP still stands : <https://gov.wales/dental-management-non-covid-19-patients> please ensure your team is working to the latest version 1.01 – changes from previous versions have been clearly highlighted.**

What does this mean for my practice?

When will the GDS Reform start?

This past year has shown us that it would be remiss of us to give you an exact start date now. Dental recovery from COVID19 will continue into the 1st and 2nd Quarter of 2021/22 financial year. GDS Reform planning is ongoing and we will communicate regarding start date of the GDS Reform in due course.

What about UDAs?

Financial support and the suspension of UDAs targets will continue into 2021/22.

Will there be an expected target for 21/22?

NHS BSA are working on producing a baseline of your past preventive care, treatment activities and access. The numbers of unique patients seen by your practice gives assurance to your Health Boards and Welsh Government that the contract value invested in your practice is supporting recovery of need based dental access, delivery of need/risk assessments (ACORNs), personalised prevention and treatment as required. Nothing new – just good preventive needs led dentistry. Information on what your practice has delivered will be shared with you and it will be reviewed by your Health Board. This will include new and existing patient access, the ACORN findings, preventive intervention/advice, treatment activities etc. delivered by your practice. Such information will be used to support decision making in 21/22 so it is important to not hold on to FP17Ws that can be submitted.

Be involved

We welcome feedback and questions. We may not have all the answers yet – in fact we most definitely won't if they are related to work yet to be done **BUT** we capture the questions and use them to inform our programme and communication (e.g. FAQ documents, webinars, engagement events). So please, keep asking questions and giving us your feedback – you can send these to Kate Kate.Eyre@wales.nhs.uk.

Attend Anywhere

Attend anywhere training is currently available <https://digitalhealth.wales/tec-cymru/vc-service/i-am-clinician/training/primary> please refer to the letter from DCDO Warren Tolley circulated on 6th January 2021

What can my practice do to prepare for restart?

Register and log into eDEN, you can check in real time how your practice is doing and ensure your data is being submitted correctly. You can register via this email : nhsbsa.dentalinsight@nhs.net Getting ready for restart you can consider a review of your personal development plan (PDP).

A Quality Improvement Dental Educator (DE) can facilitate a 1:1 on-line session with you to examine the CPD you have done to date, and to think about what you may need to focus on after the pandemic to help you prepare for post covid-19 in your dental practice and clinics. At this session your DE can discuss your individual learning style and needs; and signpost you to courses, events and quality improvement initiatives tailored to your specific field of practise.

Contact HEIW.DentalQI@wales.nhs.uk and request a PDP virtual visit. There is a dedicated DE assigned to each HB for support on continuous quality improvement and professional development.

During this time, you and your team will have had to adapt to a new landscape for your learning and education. One that is flexible, accessible and fits in with your busy patient schedules, or where team members are having to isolate and not able to fulfil their usual role. We appreciate that attending a course or event face to face as a whole team may not be possible in the next few months.

HEIW has a wide variety of educational events that can be accessed both as live Webinars and pre-recorded sessions so team members can view them at a time and location that suits them. Subjects are concentrated on supporting and developing the careers of dental registrants enhancing knowledge and skills focused around national directives and making the most of local initiatives.

ACORN <https://ytydysgu.heiw.wales/go/qwlmhn>
Making Prevention Work in Practice (MPWIP), Attend Anywhere [Dental Postgraduate Section, Health Education and Improvement Wales \(HEIW\) - Course details \(maxcourse.co.uk\)](#)
Dental Pathways, Quality Improvement Projects using eDEN data, Shared Decision Making, Quality Improvement Study Clubs, Design to Smile (D2S) completion support workshops, Skills Optimiser Self-Evaluation Tool (SOSET) Contact HEIW.DentalQI@wales.nhs.uk