

April 2019

Welcome to the April version of your newsletter.

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Previous issues of this newsletter are available on the [GDC website](#).

Help us promote professionalism

Ross Scales, Head of Upstream Regulation, set out in a recent [blog](#) how we plan to move our focus away from enforcement to a process that seeks to prevent harm from occurring in the first place.

As set out in the GDC publication [Shifting the balance](#), and in order for this to be successful, we will engage with as many professionals and students in dentistry as we can to promote the importance of professionalism as a key driver for practice.



Hear from interim CDO Scotland, Tom Ferris

In this blog, Tom Ferris, interim Chief Dental Officer for Scotland, sets out the Scottish Government's plans for the future of oral health.

Tom explains the range of actions that are part of the plan and needed to deliver the new model of care in the country as well as the partnerships involved in delivering it.

Read more about the plan on our [website](#).

Annual Renewal for Dental Care Professionals coming soon

Annual Renewal for Dental Care Professionals will be opening in June 2019. The easiest way to pay is by Direct Debit. Simply log into your [eGDC account](#). In the 'Manage Payments' section, you can add or amend your Direct Debit details. The deadline to set up or amend a Direct Debit for this year's collection is midday on Friday 31 May 2019. Read more on our [website](#).

Council to meet in Cardiff on 30 May 2019

The GDC will be visiting Wales for our next Council meeting. We will be inviting dental professionals, students, stakeholders and patients to join Council and our executive team for our May meeting, which will include an open forum question and answer session and a networking lunch.

The event is being held on Thursday 30 May at [Cardiff City Hall](#). If you would like to attend this meeting, please get in touch to register your interest. Places are limited, so we will be confirming places ahead of the meeting. To register your interest, please email stakeholder@gdc-uk.org.

Changes to quality assurance for education and training

Manjula Das, Head of Education Policy and Quality Assurance, explains how the GDC is planning to move to a more dynamic risk-based approach towards quality assurance. The new approach follows last year's consultation on education processes and is currently being tested by focused inspections at all 16 dental schools and the running of annual monitoring pilots with DCP providers to inform the development of a risk assessment.



In addition, we are in the research phase of the thematic review on preparedness for practice of new dental graduates. Read more about the changes on our [website](#).

Find out what was discussed at Council in Bill's post-Council blog

In his post-Council [blog](#), GDC Chair Bill Moyes, explains the change to our reserves policy which was approved at Council following a review. The reserves policy is used to manage the level of our General Reserves. Part of the changes include being more transparent and being more in line with what other regulators do in determining the appropriate level of reserves to hold.

Furthermore, Bill shares an update on the work that is done to quality assure the GDC's fitness to practise work. Looking ahead, he announces that the GDC will be launching the consultation on our corporate strategy for 2020-22 in May 2019.

Contribute to the development of coding for clinical terms in dentistry

Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine Clinical Terms (SNOMED CT) is a structured clinical healthcare vocabulary system describing diagnosis as well as received and planned treatment.

The system applies across the health and social care system in England only and its implementation, as of April 2020, is mandated by law. Its purpose is to standardise terminology. In dentistry, it affects the terminology through which the dental findings from patient interactions are stored and transmitted.

Dentists can contribute to the development of the coding via the [NHS Digital SNOMED CT Portal](#). Find out what the main benefits of SNOMED CT are for dentistry on our [website](#).



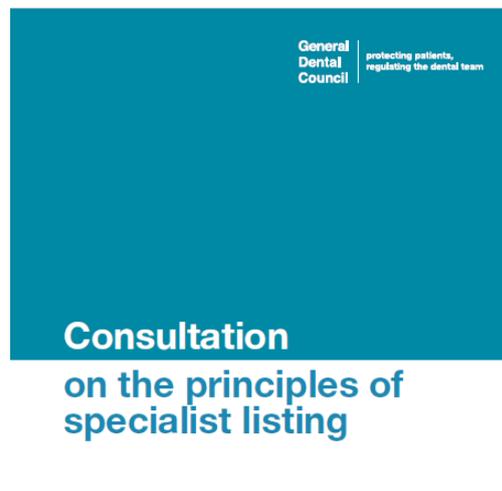
Have your say on our consultation on the principles of specialist listing

Our consultation on the principles of specialist listing will close on Thursday 25 April 2019.

We are consulting on three key areas.

- Revised purposes for specialist listing, setting out what we expect listed specialities to fulfil, and the criteria by which we will determine which disciplines of dentistry should be listed.
- The principles for the process of addition and removal of specialist lists.
- Our processes for maintaining accreditation on specialist lists.

Visit our [website](#) for more information and to respond.



Ensure you comply with changes to the Medical Devices Directive

The current Medical Devices Directive (MDD) will change to become the Medical Device Regulations (MDR) from 26 May 2020. In the UK, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) is the competent authority responsible for the MDR.

If you commission and or manufacture dental appliances, you must comply with the MDR. This includes the legal requirement to register with the MHRA. Find out about the changes in more detail in the [GDC Guidance](#) document.

You can read the EU Regulation on Medical Devices [here](#).

Find out about the implementation of the new classification of periodontal diseases

As part of its implementation of the new classification of periodontal diseases, the [British Society of Periodontology](#) (BSP) has created a decision-making flowchart for practitioners, now available to [download](#) for use in your practice.

If you are a practitioner or periodontist, the flowchart will guide you through the decision-making process to arrive at the correct diagnosis for patients. The full implementation plan can be found in the January edition of the [British Dental Journal](#), including details of the changes in classifications. Further [guidance materials](#) are available and [educational webinars](#) are scheduled, please use the links for details.

