

**MEMORANDUM TO CONTRACTORS
TO ALL CONTRACTORS ON THE DENTAL
LIST**

MDS 753

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**AMENDMENTS TO THE USE OF ITEM 30 IN THE STATEMENT OF
DENTAL REMUNERATION (SDR)**

Item 30 allows dentists to claim fees for the use of Level II Personal Protective Equipment in the provision of Aerosol Generating Procedures.

In line with changes to Infection Prevention Control guidance in Northern Ireland, claims for Item 30 will **only be payable** under the following circumstances:

- Provision of aerosol generating procedures for patients who are known or suspected to be positive with a respiratory pathogen including COVID-19, and whose treatment cannot be deferred
- Where an unacceptable risk of transmission remains following the application of the Hierarchy of Controls risk assessment. The risk assessment should include evaluation of the ventilation in the area, operational capacity, and prevalence of infection/new SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern in the local area.

Guidance to General Dental Practitioners on the use of Item 30

- ***What details need to be included in the patient record:***
For each patient visit please record the justification for the use of level II PPE, namely:
 - Details of the outcome of the dynamic risk assessment
 - The reasons why transmission based precautions (TBP) have been deployed consistent with the extant NI IPC guidance
 - Detail that an AGP has been carried out.

- Please note: Recording that an AGP has been carried out, without the justification for the TBP or the outcome of the risk assessment will not assure the claim.
- **List of Item of Service associated with AGPs**
The list of SDR items of service associated with AGPs includes, but is not limited to, those detailed at Annex A. Whilst multiple claims are permitted, only one claim per patient visit is payable.
- **Use of Level II PPE with no associated AGP item of service. Dentists need to complete observation section of EDI/HS45 claim where no AGP item can be claimed.**
Where Level II PPE has been used but no SDR AGP item can be claimed, the observation section of EDI/HS45 claim must be completed to justify the need for Level II PPE i.e. why TBPs have been deployed and the outcome of the risk assessment. Please note observations are also required if a single set of Level II PPE is used rather than two sets for an AGP.
- **Payments for Item 30**
Payment for claims under item 30 will be made at a practice level to the nominated dentist, 1 month in arrears.
- **Implementation date for SDR Item 30 change:**
As per date stated in DoH letter 09/06/2022 –updated arrangements will be introduced from 7th July 2022.

Any enquiries arising from this memorandum should be directed to GDS.Correspondence@hscni.net