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Primary Care Directorate
Dentistry and Optometry Division



Scottish Government
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Dear colleague,

I would like to update you on some forthcoming changes to Determination V (maternity, paternity, and adoptive leave payments) and VI (long term sickness payments) of the Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR).

As you will be aware, the calculation of the amount of maternity, paternity, adoptive leave, and long term sickness payments that a person may be eligible for is based on the contractor's average earnings during a test period. We are conscious of the fact that the test period is starting to include some months where contractors may have been in receipt of COVID top-up payments. We recognise that this could result in these payments being lower than they might have otherwise been in ordinary circumstances.

I would like to reassure you that we are aware of these issues and are currently working on changes to the SDR to mitigate the impact of the COVID top-up payments on the calculation of the amount of maternity, paternity, adoptive leave, and long term sickness payments that practitioners receive. I would also like to assure you that my intention is for any changes that are made to be backdated in order to account for those contractors whose payments have already been affected by these issues.

Further information on this will be communicated to you in a PCA in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Ferris
Chief Dental Officer

