

## Welcome to NES Dental Clinical Effectiveness

Welcome back to the NES Dental Clinical Effectiveness newsletter for April 2019 where you'll find updates on The Royal College event, SDCEP Dental Companion app, TiPTAP, Smileawi and much more.



Prof Jan Clarkson

**SDCEP** - The Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme [[www.sdcep.org.uk](http://www.sdcep.org.uk)]

**TRiADS** - Translation Research in a Dental Setting [[www.triads.org.uk](http://www.triads.org.uk)]

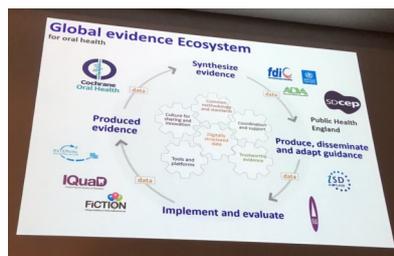
**SDPBRN** - The Scottish Dental Practice Based Research Network [[www.sdpbrn.org.uk](http://www.sdpbrn.org.uk)]

**QliPT** - Quality Improvement in Practice Training

**SDPGF** - Scottish Dental PG Fellowship

## Royal College showcases Clinical Effectiveness activities

On 18 March, around 130 delegates attended a full day event hosted by the Dental Faculty of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. The focus of the day was SDCEP guidance and how TRiADS contributes to its development and implementation. The first speaker was Prof. Jan Clarkson who explained how the way of developing SDCEP guidance has been influenced and improved through the implementation research activities of the TRiADS collaboration, and how research has informed both dental service development and in-practice training to effect change. She also described how the work of NES's Clinical Effectiveness workstream is now contributing to a global effort to improve the translation of research into dental practice.



The second talk concerned the management of patients taking anticoagulants and antiplatelet drugs, in which Dr Liz Theaker described the motivation for developing the SDCEP guidance, the clinical recommendations and newer developments since the guidance was published.

Prof. Chris Deery then started with the historical background to the Minimata Convention and the

resulting regulations on phase down of the use of dental amalgam before describing the recent development of SDCEP's implementation advice to support dental practitioners in complying with these regulations.

In the afternoon, Prof. Jeremy Bagg discussed the development of SDCEP's implementation advice on antibiotic prophylaxis against infective endocarditis, with an emphasis on TRiADS research to provide insight into implementation concerns. Dr Alex Crighton, explained bone turnover and how certain medications can affect this, as background to SDCEP's recommendations on the oral health management of patients at risk of medication-related osteonecrosis of the Jaw (MRONJ). In the final presentation Simon Morrow discussed guidance on conscious sedation, focussing on the responsibilities of those referring patients for sedation, the assessment process and how to prepare patients for sedation referral. With lively question and answer sessions, 'Word Clouds' generated by the audience using their mobile phones and an excellent opportunity to catch up with colleagues, the delegates enjoyed a highly informative and interactive event.



## Dental management of patients at risk of Infective Endocarditis

The Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme (SDCEP) published implementation advice regarding Antibiotic Prophylaxis Against Infective Endocarditis in August 2018. To help explore the usefulness and impact of this advice, TRiADS is inviting dentists to take part in a survey which explores their current practice, attitudes and beliefs regarding dental management of patients at risk of Infective Endocarditis.

If you would like to participate in this survey, please complete the online questionnaire available [here](#) by **22nd May 2019**. If you work in more than one clinical area or health board, you are asked to answer in respect to the area in which you spend the most time.



## SDCEP Dental Companion app

A new app to facilitate delivery of SDCEP clinical guidance to dentists will be launched shortly. Building on the success of the popular *Dental Prescribing* app, the SDCEP *Dental Companion* will initially provide digital access to four of SDCEP's guidance publications. In future, other guidance topics can be added to give a suite of dental clinical guidance toolkits in a single app.

The *Dental Companion* app has been designed to provide an alternative way of accessing SDCEP's evidence-based guidance recommendations. Users are able to quickly find key recommendations for each topic, with a layering approach allowing more detailed information to be accessed if required.

SDCEP will evaluate uptake of the app and intend to ask for user feedback in the months following launch.

The *Dental Companion* app will be available for use on smartphones and tablets. These will be available to download from the App store and Google Play. A desktop version will also be available.

Keep an eye on SDCEP's website, [www.sdcep.org.uk](http://www.sdcep.org.uk), for more information on the *Dental Companion*, including details of the launch date.



## Advice and Information for Dental Practice

Recent updates to SDCEP's **Practice Support Manual** include: a new Quality Improvement Activity topic, which replaces the previous Audit topic; a new subsection on Duty of Candour; updated advice on practice publication schemes. Further details at [www.psm.sdcep.org.uk](http://www.psm.sdcep.org.uk).

The **Scottish Dental website** provides a range of information on dentistry for professionals and patients, including the latest Scottish Government publications (CDO letters, PCA(D) letters and other news items). Visit: [www.scottishdental.org](http://www.scottishdental.org).



## Smileawi

Laura Wilson, Dental Tutor for QliPT will be traveling to Malawi in September with a group of volunteers including another NES colleague Julie Cunningham. The purpose of this visit is to help the Smileawi charity to assist in delivering much needed emergency dental care in rural areas of the country.

The Charity was set up in 2016 by Nigel and Vicky Milne who visit the country every year and carry out pain clinics, helping thousands of people who otherwise would still be suffering. They set up dental clinics in classrooms, churches or existing clinics and through this they have removed thousands of painful teeth for many grateful patients. They fundraise throughout the year for much needed equipment and materials to carry this out.

They do fantastic work and Laura is really looking forward to being part of the trip. Donations can be made at <http://smileawi.com/>.



Registered Charity No: SC04643

## TiPTAP – Training in Practice intervention to Target Antibiotic Prescribing

The TiPTAP pilot study has now been successfully completed with the help and support of 10 dental practices. TiPTAP is an additional component that has been incorporated into NES's infection control and decontamination training which is delivered to dental practices across Scotland by the QliPT team.

TiPTAP aims to support practices to take a team approach to dealing with any antibiotic prescribing challenges they face and to improving their prescribing practice if required.

Feedback from practices shows that practice staff care about improving antibiotic prescribing, positively rate the TiPTAP training, would recommend it to others and appreciate the whole team approach. Going forward the pilot has demonstrated that TiPTAP is a feasible and acceptable training intervention ready for integration into QliPT's current infection control and decontamination training. Its impact will be evaluated in a randomised controlled trial supported by TRiADS and the Health Services Research Unit at the University of Aberdeen.

