

## Welcome to NES Dental Clinical Effectiveness

Welcome to the April 2021 edition of the Dental Clinical Effectiveness Newsletter. In this edition you will find details regarding COVID-19 activities, Virtual In-practice Training, CAREER project and The Clinical Effectiveness Postgraduate Training Day.



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)]

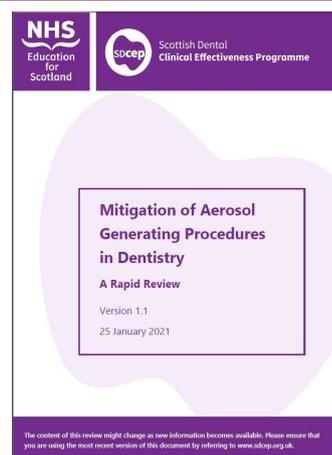
**QIiPT** - [[Quality Improvement in Practice Training](#)]

## COVID-19 activities

SDCEP's activities to support dental services during the COVID-19 pandemic were featured in [NHS Education for Scotland's Year in Review 2020](#). As well as providing advice on remote management of patients and practice recovery, SDCEP carried out a rapid review of evidence related to aerosol generating procedures which was published in September. As a living document, searches for new evidence have been regularly carried out since publication.

To date, no new evidence that would change the conclusions of the rapid review has been identified. The latest update is available on the [SDCEP website](#).

SDCEP has also compiled a summary of currently available information on ventilation, with a focus on advice and information most relevant to dental facilities. This will be posted on the SDCEP website shortly.



## Virtual In-Practice Training

At the moment due to the Covid-19 situation, [QIiPT](#) are not able to provide face to face in-practice infection control training sessions as all NES face to face training is currently paused.

**We are now able to offer a 2 hour 15 mins virtual In-Practice Training Session.**

Our team of Tutors have worked hard to create an excellent and more convenient, alternative session which is delivered virtually. This will allow us to continue delivering training in practice for the whole dental team in these circumstances.

The training will count towards enhanced CPD for the whole dental team and dentists attending the training will be eligible for CPD allowance.

No charges currently apply to these sessions for NHS dental practices.

All attendees of the Virtual In-Practice training require an active Portal account with up-to-date details upon booking. If you are interested in booking this training, please contact our Business Support team at [qiipt@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:qiipt@nes.scot.nhs.uk)



## Periodontitis and Diabetes Project

SDCEP are currently supporting DCTs, Matthew Cousins and Kajal Patel in undertaking a new project to determine the factors that influence the extent to which health professionals are following best practice guidance in the management of diabetes mellitus and periodontal disease.

Periodontitis is a form of gum disease with multiple systemic and local risk factors and has an inflammatory pathophysiology. There is evidence of a two-way relationship between periodontitis and type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus. The significance of this relationship is that periodontal inflammation negatively impacts glycaemic control, as well as a clear association between the degree of hyperglycaemia and severity of periodontitis. So far, the project has explored current practice, knowledge and beliefs about health practitioners' communication with patients regarding diabetes and periodontal disease via focus group discussions.

In addition, the barriers and facilitators to following best practice guidance with regards to diabetes mellitus and periodontal disease will be explored via an online questionnaire distributed to a range of healthcare professionals. This will include: general medical practitioners, diabetic nurse specialists, endocrinology trainees and consultants, junior doctors, general dental practitioners, periodontal specialists and dental hygienists. We will shortly be issuing a questionnaire to all relevant parties.

## Clinical Effectiveness Postgraduate Training Day

The Clinical Effectiveness Postgraduate Training Day was held online on the 18th March 2021. The aims and objectives of the training day were to increase awareness and understanding of primary dental care research currently being carried out in Scotland. The learning outcomes of the day were to increase knowledge and understanding of research carried out in primary dental care, gain experience of methods for analysing qualitative research data and gain an understanding of some of the challenges that can be encountered when conducting research in primary dental care.



The training day contained presentations detailing the SCRIPT trial, Periodontal Disease and Diabetes project, CAREER project, TiPTAP trial and Audit Co-Design project. The training event was fully booked and received positive feedback from the participants who were awarded 2.5 hours verifiable CPD. Further details of the event and the presentations will be available on the websites soon.

## PSM Webinar

Portal TV is now open to allow dental professionals access to recorded dental webinars. Those who attended the live version can access, with no further charge, the edited version. Those that missed the live stream can book and access the recording via Portal.

The edited [Practice Support Manual webinar](#) recording is available to view. The aim of the webinar is to inform viewers how to access the Practice Support Manual (PSM), identify and adapt templates, and describe how the PSM can be used to support practices in preparing for a Combined Practice Inspection (Scotland). Access to the Practice Support Manual and Portal are via logins. To ensure you have access to all the available information please check your email address and passwords are up to date.

## CAREER-Update

The **CAREER** Team are pleased to report that the first paper from the study, titled '[Exploring the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the dental team: preparedness, psychological impacts and emotional reactions](#)' has been published by international journal [Frontiers in Oral Health](#) as an open access publication.

The paper presents findings from the baseline questionnaire which was made available to trainee dental professionals and primary dental care professionals from June to October 2020. Completed questionnaire responses were received from 218 primary dental care professionals and 111 trainee dental professionals. The team shall be presenting the paper along with a project overview and update at the forthcoming NES Annual Virtual Conference 2021 at the Dental Education Free Papers session taking place from 11.30 to 12.30 on Friday 28th May.

Analysis of the six focus groups held between July and October 2020 and the quantitative component of the weekly online diaries is now complete and papers will be submitted to suitable academic journals soon. Participants who completed the baseline questionnaire have been sent the follow-up questionnaire, which closed on 21st April. A further baseline questionnaire has been distributed to the new cohorts of dental trainees, including Vocational Dental Practitioners, Vocational Dental Therapists, Core and Speciality Trainees and Trainee Dental Nurses, which closed on 28th April.

## New DCP Advisor for CDO appointed

The Chief Dental Officer of Scotland has taken the innovative step of appointing a Dental Care Professionals Advisor, a first in the any of the 4 UK CDO offices. Shaun Howe is a dental therapist working for the Public Dental Service in NHS Shetland and has been seconded into this role 2 days a week for a short period to support the Office of the CDO in understanding the DCP workforce in Scotland.

Many dental care professionals work in the independent sector and are "hidden" from the CDO and Shaun is seeking to engage with as many stakeholders as possible to ensure the views, comments and opinions of dental care professionals from all sectors are captured.

Shaun would, in particular, seek to engage with dental nurses and dental technicians working in the independent sector that provide some element of NHS care. Are you a dental nurse or dental technician working in an independent practice or laboratory that would like to share thoughts about how the NHS can help deliver the best care to the patients of Scotland? Feel free to email Shaun at [shaun.howe@scot.gov](mailto:shaun.howe@scot.gov) and join in the discussion.

## Homeworking

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, NES staff are continuing to work from home wherever possible. All Clinical Effectiveness staff are currently working from home and have adapted the way we work to reflect this.

Our staff continue to be contactable at [scottishdental.cep@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:scottishdental.cep@nes.scot.nhs.uk).



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