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| **SDPBRN QI (Research) Portfolio Project** |
| **Using Scottish Adult Oral Health Survey Data to Support Quality Improvement in Primary Dental Care. (2017-2018)** |
| **QI (Research) category** | Category D - National, practice-based, dental quality improvement initiatives that include a reflective research component. |
| **Dental care quality dimension(s)** | The efficiency and effectiveness of dental care |
| **QI (Research) Hours Awarded** | 4 hours (data returned on a minimum of 25 patients)5 hours (data returned on a minimum of 40 patients) |
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| **Project Details** |  |
| Background | The first Scottish Adult Oral Health Survey (SAOHS) was carried out as a pilot project in 2015/16 with the support and approval of the Scottish Dental Epidemiology Co-ordinating Committee (SDECC). The principal objectives of this pilot project were to:* examine the feasibility of collecting adult oral health data and establish appropriate methodologies;
* work in conjunction with primary care dental practitioners to collect data;
* gather population oral health information as part of dental examinations in the NHS GDS and PDS;
* assess the condition of the mouth in adults, including the level of dental restorations, periodontal health and plaque control;
* assess current oral health behaviours (smoking, alcohol consumption and dental attendance);
* allow examination, in due course, of changes over time in oral health and behaviours.

It was anticipated that, if successful, the pilot would be the first stage in the development of a rolling SAOHS programme within different age groups over time. Following completion and reporting of the pilot, NHS General Dental Practitioners and Public Dental Service dentists are being invited to take part in the second SAOHS of this rolling programme.A national quality improvement QI project has been developed to complement this stage of the SAOHS programme. The aims of this QI project are to enable participating dentists use the SAOHS information they have collected to identify areas where their practice can be improved, to compare and contrast their results with the results of other dentists in Scotland and to reflect on their findings for their own practice, how these might be interpreted and how they might be utilised to design and implement a quality improvement activity which is relevant for their local patient population. |
| Research question(s) relating to quality dimension | 1. Can practitioner level and national level comparator data from the SAOHS be used to support dentist directed quality improvement in primary dental care?
2. What are the barriers and facilitators to implementing improvements?
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| Primary outcome(s) relating to quality dimension(s) | 1. Provision of individual summaries of returned SOAHS data and a national comparator to dentists participating in the survey who have submitted records for at least 25 patients.
2. Exploration of how dentists use the returned SAOHS data to identify potential areas of quality improvement within their own practice.
3. Identification of the barriers and facilitators to making quality improvements in the effectiveness of dental care delivery in primary care.
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| Secondary outcome(s) relating to quality dimension(s) | Practitioner views on the SAOHS electronic submission with a view to improving efficiency of the data collection system in future years. Practitioners will be asked to provide feedback on the questionnaire in terms of:* Acceptability - structure and format
* Utility - electronic format and submission
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| Design | Cross-Sectional Survey |
| Setting | General and Public Dental Service practices in Scotland |
| Participants | Dentists |
| Number of dentist participants | Up to 400 |
| QI (Research) activities | Participating dentists will complete the SAOHS with 25 (40) consecutive patients from the designated age group (45 years +). Dentists will submit their completed questionnaires electronically to ISD/ NSS for collation and analysis. Each dentist will receive a summary of their own results as well as an anonymised summary of the aggregated results from all participants. Dentists will review and reflect on their own results and how these compare with other dentists in Scotland. They will then choose up to three areas where they believe improvements in the quality of dental care could be achieved for their local practice population and develop and implement action plans for improvement in their practice. |
| Reflective activity | Dentists must complete and submit a structured reflective report. Within the reflective report they are asked to provide their own perceptions of the SAOHS electronic submission process thinking about the positive and less positive aspects of the current data collection system. They are also asked to reflect on the barriers and facilitators to using the SAOHS data and making quality improvement in their own practice. |
| Anticipated start date | 4 December 2017 |
| Anticipated end date | Anticipated recruitment end date 30 June 2018 |
| Project Status | Ongoing |

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| **Contacts**  |  |
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| **Date adopted onto SDPBRN QI (Research) Portfolio** | 4 December 2016 |