

WGDPC Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2011 Report to LDC  
Anwen Hopkins

The meeting was a joint meeting of the BDA Welsh Committee and WGDPC. There was quite a lot of quite high up political stuff talked about but mainly regarding the possible lack of dental representation while David Thomas is off but he's apparently hoping to be back by January.

There was a presentation from Raylene Roper the pilot coordinator – pilots are going well, so far pt numbers have dropped but it is unclear if this is due to paperwork not being submitted or an actual drop and more new children are being seen. A company which includes prof Steele will be evaluating the results. Concern was raised with the child only pilots that adult pt UDA's were not being generated due to the extra clinical time given over to the pilot and that was a worry. The new contract is likely to be based on the English model but hopefully they can learn off us as well.

There was concern that the primary care support service's funding will no longer be from Welsh Government but from the public health department for the next 6 months. After that they'll probably ask the LHB's to pay for it - but they don't have any money.

Design to smile inquiry – mainly concerned with is it value for money – too early to say but the Scottish version is further along and they have had some positive results.

1000 lives plus project – Audit funding is available from the post grad dept for dentists who want to audit their antibiotic prescribing. It was unclear how much funding was available but probably between 3-6 hrs. Also the Scottish prescribing document which is the gold standard and an idiots' guide to prescribing is going to be given out to all dentists in Wales.

HIW – fee increase to £75. BSC will facilitate CRB checks for new staff members.

Tooth whitening. – There has been an amendment to the cosmetic directive in the EEU which states

- 1 a clinical examination must be carried out prior to tooth whitening (ie by a dentist)
- 2 materials can only be supplied to dentists
- 3 1<sup>st</sup> application of gel must be in the chair but can then delegate to suitably trained person or given as home whitening kits
- 4 maximum concentration of material is 6% hydrogen peroxide (18% carbamide )
- 5 not for under 18 years or in pregnant women

This will help trading standards combat hairdressers etc who offer whitening.

Amalgam – UN Environmental programme want to reduce dental use of mercury but are looking towards prevention of caries as the best way to do this.

UHW – student fees likely to be £9000.

They need to save money so are likely to cut back on implants, not accept referrals from outside trust area and no more gold!

Remuneration committee – 31<sup>st</sup> October is the deadline for any associates that have incorporated to go back to being self employed so risk losing their pension entitlement. Superannuation is 0 for 1000 dentists in Wales and this is going to be looked into initially by prompting providers into correcting any ‘mistakes’ but if not then prosecutions may happen.

They want dentists to make a 4% efficiency saving again this year. There are increased expenses of 2.9% but this leaves 1.1% of efficiency savings needed. There are some options that may be offered to make up this deficit –

- 1 removing high fluoride prescriptions from list
- 2 Patient participation committee's to be set up
- 3 completing public health and prevention training
- 4 targeting 0-5yrs and 18-25 yr olds
- 5 limiting highest UDA value to £40.

It has yet to be decided which concession will be used.

It was decided to ask for further ring fencing of the dental budget when it finishes in 2012...

Seniority payments stopped as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 in England. This isn't happening in Wales but the BDA are planning to fight it based on if you've paid into the scheme then you should get it or get a refund - so this might raise the issue and cause problems in Wales.

Assessment and advice should be free of charge for over 60's and under 25's – apparently there is a code that can be entered in observations hopefully more info on this will be sent out soon.

Statutory levy – has to be requested to continue on an annual basis or the collection of it will be stopped.