

Notes on the Operative Dentistry Working Group Meeting. Rhian Paul 18.07.13

DES's in Endodontics.

As the Dental Services Strategy meeting was cancelled the documents relating to this project have not been finally approved. This is a project that has the full backing of the group. The next DSSPG meeting is due on 27 September and the hope is then to secure funding from the Primary care budget to allow the awarding of contracts for the service which is hoped will happen in the next few months.

Special Care Dentistry.

Lack of special care dentistry training for dentists and nurses. Hopefully training sessions will be organized for dentists who may have a special interest in treating this category of patients.

Paediatric GA services.

At present two bids have been submitted to provide this service which was recently put out to tender. The result not yet known. The current contract runs out at the end of September. A protocol for assessment of paediatric patients prior to GA is being developed in the hope that it will reduce GA's and repeat visits.

Central referral centres.

Due to lack of funding for the required manpower to run a centralized centre for all dental referrals a decision has been made by the LHB to concentrate on Oral Surgery referrals and paediatric GA referrals. Orthodontic referrals are already being monitored.

Bisphosphonate therapy Patients.

Patients receiving IV Bisphosphonate therapy infusion therapy will now be assessed via a new protocol as part of their oncology treatment. The first assessment will be carried out at the hospital and thereafter the treatments carried out by the GDS and Community.

Restorative GA Services Move.

James Owens (Consultant in Restorative Dentistry) set out plans to relocate the present Morrision Restorative GA services to Bridgend as there are dedicated beds available and allows for preassessment and day long staff care as well as being less stressful for patients, especially for those with special needs. If overnight stays required there will not be a further problem. The waiting times could also be quickly reduced. And maybe even accommodating emergency access for special needs patients.

Clinical Dental Technologist.

To reduce waiting times for patients on the Restorative waiting list a business case and job description is being developed to help to make the waiting list more manageable.

Also the move for Restorative services from Neath Port Talbot hospital to Baglan Resource Centre has been successfully carried out and working well.