

Dental Public Health update to LDCs- September 2018

Prevention of Dental Disease

Improving Caries Status of Older Children

The latest survey of caries in school year 7 children in Wales (2016/2017) shows steady continuing improvement. The proportion of 12 year olds with at least one tooth affected by obvious dentinal decay has fallen below 30% for the first time. This is a fall of over 15% since 2003/04. The next cohort of 12 year olds examined (2020/2021) will be the first to have participated in the Designed to Smile programme. If participation in Designed to Smile has long term impact on caries risk then we should see a steepening of the decline in decay in 2020/2021.

(To see 2016/17 12 year old survey results go to

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/research/explore/research-units/welsh-oral-health-information-unit> and click on projects)

Designed to Smile in Practice

We are delighted to share with you a new and exciting online resource that has been developed for use by all members of the dental team. It has been developed by the Designed to Smile Team, in collaboration with Public Health Wales and Wales Deanery. This resource will utilise quality improvement methodology to underpin evidence-based preventive care and advice to young patients.

The Designed to Smile in Practice (D2S) QI tool is an online course, with 9 short modules. It guides learners, step-by-step, through a Quality Improvement (QI) project which:

- Recaps current guidelines regarding preventive care and advice (Delivering Better Oral Health)
- Provides an introduction to the Designed to Smile programme (including the offer of a free in-practice CPD session)
- Helps dental teams identify ways in which they could improve preventive care and advice given to young children in their practice

This course is suitable for all GDC-registered members of the dental team and will be available from September 2018. We would particularly encourage DCPs to take part on behalf of their practice. For the first roll-out of the tool only one team member per practice should take part. Once they have completed the course, a second person from that practice can then begin the course, picking another one of the projects on offer.

Upon successful completion of the project you would receive 10 hours verifiable CPD and IQT Silver Foundation Award. The resource is free to use and a Deanery QI Educator would oversee and assist you throughout the project. Wales Deanery are taking early expressions of interest from dental professionals who would like to undertake the D2S in Practice QI E-learning resource when it is launched in September 2018, If you would like to register your interest please contact Heather Stewart on: StewartH5@cardiff.ac.uk

To learn more about the Designed to Smile programme, please visit <http://www.designedtosmile.org/>

Making Every Contact Count (MECC)

A new free, short e-learning resource for Making Every Contact Count has been launched and is available at:

<https://mecc.publichealthnetwork.cymru/en/e-learning/>

General Dental Service Reform

GDS Reform Programme

An interim report based on risk and need data submitted by 20 reform practices was shared with the GDS Reform Programme Steering Group and participating practices.

Evening sessions with Dental Practices has been organised in South and North Wales.

North Wales event has been arranged for the 19th September at 6pm in Llandudno

South Wales event has been arranged for 10th September at 6pm in the Village hotel in Cardiff.

Dental Planning Workshop for LHBs

Welsh Government have organised a dental planning workshop for LHBs on 6th September 2018. The themes of the day include

- The oral and dental response to “Our Healthier Wales”,
- An interactive session on the GDS Reform
- E referrals
- An update on eDen
- Innovation fund and capacity building

Research for Patient and Public Benefit (RfPPB)

Anwen Cope and Anup Karki from the Dental Public Health team will be working with investigators from Cardiff University, an NHS dental practice and patient and public involvement representatives to develop a decision aid which can be used in consultations to discuss the pros and cons of 6-monthly vs. risk-based dental recall intervals with patients. This study is funded by Health and Care Research Wales.

Health Protection and Dental Health

Flu Planning

Flu is not currently circulating in Wales but Health Protection staff in PHW are starting to plan for the forthcoming flu season. Practices can expect emails reminding them of the opportunities for flu vaccination soon. Practices will also be alerted when flu starts to circulate in Wales at high levels – usually this is between December and February. A key group who should be vaccinated and should avoid contracting flu is women in the second or third trimester, a group who are entitled to free NHS dental care.

Nigel Monaghan, Anup Karki, Mary Wilson September 2018