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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Abertawe Bro Morgannwg
University Health Board

7th March 2018

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To: All ABM Contract Holders

Primary Care & Community Services
Delivery Unit
Block A
Neath Port Talbot Hospital
Baglan Way
Port Talbot
SA12 7BX

Dear Colleague

Re: UDA Uplift

As you will be aware, the UDA value in each dental contract is varied due to the way the contract was introduced back in 2006. The associated UDA rate was not an indicator of quality but of treatments provided the year before the 'new' contract was implemented. On that basis some practices were awarded high UDA values and others very low.

It is accepted that the disparity in UDA values is unfair and in some cases does not reflect the good work and quality of service being provided in practice. The Health Board has previously made efforts to equalise the disparity of UDA values across ABM, particularly with a common UDA rate being introduced in 2014 and all new activity being awarded at the common UDA rate of £22.50.

However despite these efforts, the Health Board has unfortunately not been in a financial position to further improve the situation but I am pleased to be able to share with you that the Health Board now finds itself in a position where it is able to make a significant difference to the UDA values and make attempts to make the payment system more fair.

For those practices that have a low UDA value, the Health Board is offering to raise the UDA rate to £25 and backdate this to January 2018. The uplift is being offered on the basis of driving quality into service provision. Therefore, to ensure the uplift is guaranteed, there are a number of quality indicators that are linked to the offer of a raised UDA value and practices will need to accept the conditions for the uplift to be applied.

The quality indicators are set out on page 3 of this letter. Each practice will need to demonstrate that they meet or will be working towards achieving the quality indicators over

a 2 year period. The additional income the UDA uplift will generate will not be automatically added to the contract value but will be paid on a monthly basis, as an additional payment to the contract, for a period of 2 years. If practices can demonstrate (during the 2 year period) that all quality indicators are implemented into the practice, the UDA uplift will be made permanent and added to the contract value.

For those practices that are not able to demonstrate a continued achievement of the indicators, the monthly payments will cease and the UDA uplift offer will be retracted from the practice. Achievement/compliance with the quality indicators will be monitored by the Dental Leads and discussed during contract meetings. The offer is being made on the basis of improving quality of service for patients and if the indicators are not met, the higher UDA value does not apply.

The offer of a raised UDA value will also not apply to those who have restricted contracts i.e. child only or child/exempt adult contracts. If a practice would like to change the status of the contract and discuss and implement a phased approach to providing treatments to adult fee paying patients, to enable the contract to become a full NHS contract, the offer of a higher UDA will apply.

If you would like to accept the offer of £25 per UDA and agree to implement the quality indicators into your practice, please complete the attached pro forma and return to Sarah Dunstan no later than Wednesday 14th March 2018. If we do not receive a signed return by the deadline it will be assumed you do not wish to take up the offer.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Dunstan or Alison Herbert Davies on 01639 684506 or 01656 753807.

Yours sincerely

Kim Dunn
Primary Care Manager



Quality Indicators attached to UDA Uplift

1.	All claims to be transmitted electronically to NHSBSA and have IT facilities in place for the e-referral system which will soon be implemented to improve processing efficiency.
2.	Provide access to repatriated healthy children from the Community Dental Service and welcome new young patients referred via health visitors and the 'Lift the Lip' Programme.
3.	Ensure appropriate, fully completed and timely referrals for patients into different service pathways including GA referrals for paediatric patients.
4.	Facilitate and implement an effective recall system which would free up more time to provide open access to new patients requiring general dental care.
5.	Ensure the practice offers dental services during normal working hours (Monday to Friday) and have appropriate arrangements in place on any day the practice may 'close' early ensuring patients are not inappropriately signposted to 111.
6.	Be willing to become part of the contract reform programme to explore better ways of working when offered by the Health Board
7.	Engage in training day and primary dental care workshops organised for the benefit of the whole dental team.

Practice Declaration:

I accept the terms and conditions attached to the offer of a UDA uplift to my contract and understand the implications if the above quality indicators are not met within the practice.

Practice Name and Address:	
Contract Holder Signature: (Print)	
Date:	

