The Future of NHS Dentistry:
Improving Quality and Outcomes
A Public Policy Exchange Symposium

Wednesday 21st November 2012
10:15am – 4:30pm
Central London

Public Policy Exchange, in association with the Centre for Parliamentary Studies, holds regular interactive seminars which provide an invaluable interface for policy discussion, debate and networking. These special events offer local practitioners, civil servants and other stakeholders not only an insight into current policy thinking, but also the opportunity to feed into future development across all areas of public policy.

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Overview

Until now, the NHS Dentistry contract has remained focused on treatment; there has been little or no incentive for dentists to practice preventative dentistry. As outlined in the NHS Dental Contract: Proposals for Pilots (December 2010), the Government wishes to put in place an NHS dental service delivering high quality clinically appropriate preventative, routine and complex care for those who choose it. Thus, it plans to develop a new national contract based on registration, capitation and quality. In moving to a capitation and quality model, the Government proposes a new way of remunerating dentists for the clinical care they deliver. Subject to the success of the Pilots and approval of Parliament, the new contract is expected to be implemented in April 2014.

The introduction of a new dentistry contract was originally proposed in the NHS White Paper, Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS (July 2010), and following a period of consultation, a trial scheme was launched in September 2011 with 70 pilots. The existing dental contract system, introduced in 2006, is based on remuneration for activity or units of dental activity; this system, it is argued, does not reward quality. Instead of paying dentists based on the number of courses of treatment they provide, the new contract system proposes for payments to be made according to the numbers of patients they provide care for. The pilots, now extended until March 2013, aim to lead a fundamental reform of the NHS dental contract having been designed in consultation with a national steering group.

Furthermore, the pilots will help to test the Dental Quality and Outcomes Framework (May 2011) in dental practice, and to develop and refine the systems which can be used to monitor quality and outcomes. The Framework may provide a better way of holding dentists to account, than simply measuring the number of units of dental activity they carry out. NHS dentistry accounts for nearly £3 billion of public expenditure and, as such, it is necessary to improve the quality of patient care and increase access to NHS dental services.

One year on from the start of the Dental Pilots and with the recent publication of the Office of Fair Trading’s review on whether the UK dentistry market is working well for consumers, this timely symposium offers an invaluable opportunity to analyse the Government’s plan for modernising NHS dentistry and assess and debate the key developments in improving quality and outcomes for all dental patients.

“\nIt is vital that patients receive high quality dental care and we are committed to promoting good oral health and preventing dental decay, especially in children. The Government believes dentists should get paid for the quality of treatment they provide rather than simply for the number of treatments. This is not only better for patients, but also a better use of NHS resources. The pilot sites will test different ways of putting this approach into practice. What we learn from this process will inform the new contract”

- Secretary of State for Health, September 2011

“\nIt is vital that changes to dentists’ contracts are piloted before the government introduces a new dental contract. It is heartening to see the profession engaging so positively in the pilot process. Oral health has improved but the risks of decay and gum disease are still high for many people. It is now time to focus attention on achieving healthy mouths as our outcome and not just volumes of treatment provided”

- Professor Jimmy Steele, Member of National Steering Group, September 2011

Why Attend?

✓ Assess the next steps for regulation and the Government’s plan for modernising NHS dentistry
✓ Analyse the progress of the Dental Pilots, their impact on professionals and patients, and the challenges faced
✓ Examine the recommendations and implications of the recently published OFT Review and the anticipated Government response
✓ Explore the impact of the recent consultation exempting providers of dental services from licensing by Monitor
✓ Discuss the role of care pathways in NHS dental services and in ensuring a high level of patient care

Who Should Attend?

• Dental Principals
• Commissioning Managers
• Clinical Directors
• Dental Public Health Consultants
• Dental Services Representatives
• Private Dental Practices
• Healthcare Managers
• Practice Managers
• Primary Care Trusts
• Quality and Patient Safety Officers
• Central Government and Agencies
• Local Authority Officers and Councillors
• Health Visitors
• Children’s Services
• Voluntary Organisations in Health and Social Care
• Regulatory Bodies
• Policy Officers
• Equal Opportunities Officers
• Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Practitioners
• Legal Advisers
• Charities, Social Enterprises and Cooperatives
• Third Sector Practitioners
• Trade Union Representatives
• Academics, Analysts and Researchers

Accommodation

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Alternatively, if you would like to book your accommodation by phone, you can call Daniel Spinner at HotelMap, on 020 7292 2335 quoting Special Reference Code M5NUZ

Enquiries: 0845 606 1535

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The Future of NHS Dentistry: Improving Quality and Outcomes

Programme

**09:15** Registration and Morning Refreshments

**10:00** Chair’s Welcome and Introduction

**10:15** Panel Session One: Quality Not Quantity – The Future of NHS Dentistry

- Adapting to Change – Assessing the Dental Contract, the New System of Registration and Capitation, and the Dental Quality and Outcomes Framework as Reliable Models for the Future
- Implementing the New Contract, Its Impact on Dental Professionals and Patients and Implications for Delivery and Care
- Results and Indicators from the Dental Pilot Programme So Far– Challenges Faced in the Pilot and How Have They Been Addressed?
- Protecting Patients’ Interests – the Role of the NHS Commissioning Board in Enforcing Standards and Ensuring a Safe Transfer of Responsibilities in 2013

**11:15** Morning Refreshments

**11:30** Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel One

**12:30** Networking Lunch

**13:15** Panel Session Two: The New Dentistry Landscape - The Impact of Regulatory Change

- Regulating Primary Care Dentistry for Both Private and NHS Services, Assessing the Wider Involvement of CQC and the Impact of Monitor’s Licensing Exemption Proposal
- Office of Fair Trading Study – Addressing Barriers to Entry and Expansion in the Dentistry Market and The Impact of the Recommendations in the Commissioning and Delivery of Dental Services
- Ensure Patients Have Access to Accurate and Impartial Information to Enable them to Make Informed Choices About their Care and Providing Customers with Value for Money
- Working in Partnership with the General Dental Council to Measure Safety and Examine the Emerging Issues on Quality, Access and Public Oral Health

**14:30** Afternoon Refreshments

**14:45** Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel Two

**15:45** Chair’s Summary and Closing Comments

**15:50** Networking Reception

**16:30** Close

**Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice**

Event Details

**Date:** Wednesday 21st November 2012

**Time:** 10:15am – 4:30pm

**Venue:** Central London

Forthcoming Events

- From Gold Medals to Go Pedals: Creating a Revolution in Cycling and Road Safety
  
  **14th November 2012**

- The Future of the High Street: The Next Steps in Revitalising Our Town Centres
  
  **20th November 2012**

- Countdown to the 2020 Sustainability Target: Unlocking the Power of Renewable Energy in Every Local Area
  
  **20th November 2012**

- Raising Standards in Care Homes: Safeguarding Adults from Neglect and Abuse
  
  **21st November 2012**

- Working in Partnership to Prevent Extremism and Promote Cohesion in Universities and Colleges
  
  **22nd November 2012**

- Child and Adolescent Health and Wellbeing: The Next Steps in Tackling the Sexual Exploitation of Children
  
  **28th November 2012**

- Protecting Our Most Precious Resource: Delivering the Water White Paper
  
  **28th November 2012**

- Revolutionising Public Sector Communications: Accelerating the Digitalisation of Public Services through Social Media
  
  **29th November 2012**

- The Role of Local Authorities in Dealing with Rogue Landlords
  
  **29th November 2012**

- Zero Tolerance on Forced Marriage and ‘Honour’ Based Violence: The Way Forward
  
  **4th December 2012**

- Routes out of ‘NEET’: Removing Barriers and Creating Opportunities for Young People
  
  **5th December 2012**

- The New Framework for School Inspections
  
  **5th December 2012**

- Child and Adolescent Health and Well-Being: Addressing the Hidden Harm Caused by Parental Alcohol Misuse
  
  **13th December 2012**

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Date

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