

## NHSBSA Dental Services

### In the spotlight

#### Article 9: Guidance to completing an ACORN – ROUTINE PATIENTS September 2020

Sections 1 and 2 can be completed over the phone or using video call software  
Sections 3a and 3b – completed in the surgery

*\*Denotes a main data point which must be recorded on the FP17W*

#### Section 1 – Inherent Patient risks from Medical, Social and Dental History

*Medical History – Any risks factors relevant to dental planning e.g. diabetes, dry mouth, medications, mental health conditions	YES or NO
*Social History - Any risks factors relevant to dental planning e.g. is the patient disabled, chaotic lives, children in care, homelessness	YES or NO
*Dental History - Any factors that need to be considered in patients dental care planning e.g. Phobia, anxiety, poor attender, multiple incomplete courses of treatment in the past	YES or NO

#### Section 2 – Modifiable Behaviours and Protective Factors

##### Tooth Decay Specific Risks

If 0-7yrs – supervised brushing before bedtime and one more time during the day If >7yrs – brushes at bedtime and one more time during the day	YES or NO
Consumes drinks other than milk and water outside of mealtimes e.g. fizzy drinks, tea, coffee <b>and/or</b> Eats sugary snacks, sweets etc outside of mealtimes	YES or NO

##### Periodontal Health Specific Risks – Over 12yrs only

Smokes and/or use of tobacco products	YES or NO
Brushes at bedtime and one more time during the day	YES or NO
Uses interdental aids e.g. interdental brushes, floss	YES/NO

##### Other risk or protective factors

Siblings and/or family members with active tooth decay	YES/NO
Alcohol use above recommended limits	YES/NO
Other risks e.g. diet or protective factors e.g. uses a high F toothpaste	YES/NO

### Section 3a - Clinical Findings

Soft Tissue Findings, dentures and levels of plaque (all patients)

Record any relevant clinical findings e.g. suspected cancers, ulcers, white patches Levels of plaque – record as Low / Moderate / High
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Tooth Decay – dentate patients only

*Total number of teeth in the mouth	Record number
*No active tooth decay (includes arrested decay) <b>AND</b> is <b>Green</b> on tooth brushing and/or sugar consumption	<b>Green</b>
*No active decay into dentine <b>BUT IS Amber</b> for risks (tooth brushing and/or sugar consumption)	<b>Amber</b>
*Active tooth decay into dentine or beyond	<b>Red</b>
*If <b>RED</b> , Total number of decayed teeth	Record number of dt or DT

\*Other Dental Need: e.g. Tooth surface loss, Dental trauma, Repair and maintenance, Cusp fractures, Removal of overhangs, Denture replacement required

<b>Red – Treatment required</b> <b>Amber – No treatment required now, but regular review and monitoring needed</b> <b>Green – No other treatment or need for monitoring identified</b>
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### Section 3b - Periodontal Health – Dentate and over 12yrs only

BPE score is recorded

\*Periodontal Health

BoP < 10% of sites <b>AND</b> pocket depths ≤ 4mm <b>AND</b> no BoP at 4mm sites	<b>Green</b>
BoP ≥ 10% of sites <b>AND</b> pocket depths ≤ 4mm <b>AND</b> no BoP at 4mm sites OR presence of key modifiable risk factors e.g. smoking, ineffective tooth brushing	<b>Amber</b>
Pocket depths ≥ 5mm <b>OR</b> ≥ 4mm with BoP	<b>Red</b>

If **Amber** or **Red** – proceed to record a detailed periodontal examination. See [here](#) for BSP classification and guidance

#### **Guidance to completing an ACORN – URGENT / EMERGENCY PATIENTS**

Sections 1 and 2 can be completed over the phone or using video call software

Sections 3a and 3b – completed in the surgery

***\*Denotes a main data point which must be recorded on the FP17W. Please also tick URGENT TREATMENT on the FP17W if delivering urgent treatment.***

#### **Section 1 – Inherent Patient risks from Medical, Social and Dental History**

*Medical History – Any risks factors relevant to dental planning e.g. diabetes, dry mouth, medications, mental health conditions	<b>YES</b> or <b>NO</b>
*Social History - Any risks factors relevant to dental planning e.g. is the patient disabled, chaotic lives, children in care, homelessness	<b>YES</b> or <b>NO</b>
*Dental History - Any factors that need to be considered in patients dental care planning e.g. Phobia, anxiety, poor attender, multiple incomplete courses of treatment in the past	<b>YES</b> or <b>NO</b>

## Section 2 – Modifiable Behaviours and Protective Factors

### Tooth Decay Specific Risks

If 0-7yrs – supervised brushing before bedtime and one more time during the day IF >7yrs – brushes at bedtime and one more time during the day	YES or NO
Consumes drinks other than milk and water outside of mealtimes e.g. fizzy drinks, tea, coffee <b>and/or</b> Eats sugary snacks, sweets etc outside of mealtimes	YES or NO

### Periodontal Health Specific Risks – Over 12yrs only

Smokes and/or use of tobacco products	YES or NO
Brushes at bedtime and one more time during the day	YES or NO
Uses interdental aids e.g. interdental brushes, floss	YES/NO

## Section 3a – Clinical Findings – is there active disease?

### Soft Tissue Findings, dentures and levels of plaque (all patients)

Record any relevant clinical findings e.g. suspected cancers, ulcers, white patches Levels of plaque – record as Low / Moderate / High
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### Tooth Decay – dentate patients only

*Total number of teeth in the mouth	Record number
*No active tooth decay (includes arrested decay) <b>AND</b> is <b>Green</b> on tooth brushing and/or sugar consumption	<b>Green</b>
*No active decay into dentine <b>BUT IS Amber</b> for risks (tooth brushing and/or sugar consumption)	<b>Amber</b>
*Active tooth decay into dentine or beyond	<b>Red</b>
*If <b>RED</b> , Total number of decayed teeth	Record number of dt or DT

\*Other Dental Need: e.g. Tooth surface loss, Dental trauma, Repair and maintenance, Cusp fractures, Removal of overhangs, Denture replacement required

<b>Red – Treatment required</b> <b>Amber – No treatment required now, but regular review and monitoring needed</b> <b>Green – No other treatment or need for monitoring identified</b>
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## Section 3b - Periodontal Health – Dentate and over 12yrs only

BPE score is recorded

### \*Periodontal Health

Good periodontal health and no risk factors	<b>Green</b>
Risk factors for periodontal health e.g. smoking	<b>Amber</b>
Active periodontal disease (4mm or more pockets plus BoP from the pocket)	<b>Red</b>

Patient must be offered a full ACORN especially if **Red** or **Amber** is recorded in in any of the categories for the clinical findings or modifiable risks.

### **FP17W recording for both ACORNS:**

To summarise, below are the main eight data points, which are directly captured in the assessments, which **must** be recorded in the FP17W.

Please also tick **URGENT TREATMENT** on the FP17W if delivering urgent treatment.

<b>Medical History</b>	<b>Yellow / Green</b>
<b>Social History</b>	<b>Yellow / Green</b>
<b>Dental History</b>	<b>Yellow / Green</b>
<b>Tooth Decay</b>	<b>Green / Amber / Red</b>
<b>Total no. of Teeth in Mouth</b>	<b>Number inputted</b>
<b>Number of Decayed Teeth</b>	<b>Number inputted</b>
<b>Periodontal Condition</b>	<b>Green / Amber / Red</b>
<b>Other Dental Condition</b>	<b>Green / Amber / Red</b>

#### References

- <http://www.primarycareone.wales.nhs.uk/acorn-and-expectations>
- [https://www.bsperio.org.uk/publications/good\\_practitioners\\_guide\\_2016.pdf?v=3](https://www.bsperio.org.uk/publications/good_practitioners_guide_2016.pdf?v=3)