

Dentist Bulletin – England – July 2021

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Temporary approval to suspend the need for signatures on dental forms (extension)

The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has approved an extension to an existing temporary measure in England to help limit the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) by suspending the need for patients to sign prescription, dental and ophthalmic forms.

The [suspension has been in place since 1 November 2020](#) and is now extended for a further two months until 31 August 2021.

[More information is available on GOV.UK.](#)

Deadline extension: Annual Reconciliation Report process

All providers and performers are required by law to confirm their Net Pensionable Earnings (NPE) for the 2020/21 financial year.

The deadline to confirm your NPE in [Compass](#) has now been extended and is 6pm on Wednesday 18 August 2021.

Due to the ARR deadline extension, SD86 Pension Contribution Statements will now be published in August. Any changes to contributions will show in your August pay statement.

Guidance to help you with the ARR process is available on our [website](#).

COVID-19 workforce data collection requirements

As referenced in section 3.1 of the [Guidance to support dental contract management arrangements for April 2021 to September 2021](#), completion of the monthly Compass workforce forms will continue to be a contractual requirement for the months of April to September 2021.

Workforce returns should be completed retrospectively in Compass by close of business on the fifth working day of the following month. For example, COVID-19 workforce returns for July 2021 should be completed after Sunday 1 August and by 5pm on Friday 6 August 2021.

Year-end reconciliation letters

On behalf of your NHS England and NHS Improvement regional team, our Provider Assurance Dental team will soon be delivering the year-end reconciliation for the 2020/21 financial year.

This year's reconciliation encompasses the full 2020/21 contractual year, in line with the time periods set out within the [NHS England and NHS Improvement Preparedness letters for primary dental care](#) and the supporting guidance.

We're aiming to publish your year-end reconciliation letter in Compass on Wednesday 28 July 2021. We'll send you an email to let you know when your letter is ready to view. This email will be sent to your Business Owner email address held in [Compass](#), so please ensure this is up to date.

Support

If you need help updating your email address, watch our ['How to update Personal Details as a Provider in Compass' YouTube video](#).

[PCC has created a series of four webinars](#) to support the understanding of the dental contract management arrangements for 2020/21 including the year-end reconciliation process.

Additionally, we've recently updated our website to include information and supporting documents/letter templates relating to our operational delivery of the year-end 2020/21 reconciliation. [Visit our mid-year and year-end reconciliation page](#) for more information.

Contact us at:

- nhsbsa.dentalcases@nhs.net if you have any questions about your year-end reconciliation letter
- nhsbsa.dentalcontractreform@nhs.net if you have any questions about prototype contracts

Friends and Family Test submissions

As you might know, data submission for the Friends and Family Test (FFT) restarted this month.

If you're a provider, NHS England and NHS Improvement expect you to submit your first month's data (from July) in August. The data collection survey for this will open on Monday 2 August 2021.

We'll be updating our [Friends and Family Test page](#) with guidance and the survey link soon.

Collection methods

NHS England and NHS Improvement's advice since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic has been to avoid using collection methods that might be an infection risk. See [NHS England and NHS Improvement's FFT page for more information](#).

KO41b dental complaints data submission

NHS Digital paused the collection of 2019/20 complaints information, also known as the KO41b form, from general and dental practices. This meant there was also no publication of data for the 2019/20 year.

NHS Digital has now confirmed that collections will resume from **Monday 9 August 2021** to capture complaints recorded in 2020/21.

In response to feedback through the GP bureaucracy review and the KO41b consultation exercise run by NHS Digital, several simplifying changes to the collection and return process have been made to help ease the burden. This includes extending the collection window from six weeks to 12 weeks.

This is a mandatory data collection and practices are asked to submit their returns by **Saturday 30 October 2021**.

You will receive a separate communication with further information and guidance ahead of the launch.

Suspension of some Compass functions

The following functions in Compass will be unavailable between 6pm on Wednesday 18 August and 12pm on Friday 27 August 2021:

- Adjustment Create
- Contract Amend

Removing these functions temporarily is essential to process the ARR.

Quarters 1 and 2 calendar month report in Compass

Our new report for quarters 1 and 2 is now available in Compass. The report is refreshed each night and is now based on calendar months.

Performers and providers can access the report by [logging in to Compass](#) and:

- selecting the 'Activity' folder
- selecting 'Activity Report for Quarters 1 and 2 (calendar month)'

UDA claims

For UDA claims, the month in which the activity is counted is based on the treatment completion date. However, if the patient failed to attend, the date of last visit will be used instead.

UOA claims

For UOA claims, the month in which the activity is counted is based on the date of:

- assessment for Assess and Review and Refuse
- appliance fitted for case starts
- completion for appliance repairs

Contact us at nhsbsa.dentalservices@nhsbsa.nhs.uk if you have any questions about your report.

Have your say on eDEN

Over the next few months the look and feel of eDEN will change as we look to make improvements and we would like your views.

We'd welcome your input to help us make the systems that you use the best that they can be.

There are lots of ways you can do this, from filling in online surveys to taking part in 20-minute interviews, to slightly longer group or usability sessions (where you get a chance to see and use what is being changed, before it goes live). We are launching the first of our usability sessions this month.

To take part in the sessions or find out more just email the User Research Team at nhsbsa.ur-insight@nhs.net.