

Brent tPCT Dental Briefing: Update October 07

Introduction

Brent PCT has successfully managed to sign 100% NHS dental practices for the **New Dental General Service contract** (nGDS). Brent has commissioned £14.3m for dental treatment this equates to 64 dental practices providing a service compared to the London average of 38 practices. In the first year of the contract April 06 – March 07 Brent Dental Practices achieved 97.18% of their units of dental activity commissioned compared to the rest of London a very high percentage.

With the advent of the new contract Brent has **no** dental access problems. Patients who need a NHS dental practice can go to any dental practice in Brent for NHS treatment. The contract stipulates practices do not need to have registrations therefore treatment can occur at any practice.

Out of Hours (OOH) – In April 06 the PCT took responsibility for this service. Brent is working directly with NW London Commissioning group which has developed a working model for OOH i.e. using a triage service. Since April 06 Brent has received no complaints for accessing OOH services and patients have had no problems for accessing OOH treatment. Further the PCT also has a list of dental practices providing unscheduled emergency treatment during working hours. This list is available in the PALS team at the PCT, NHS Direct and NW London dental triage service.

The Department of Health and the Faculty of General Dental Practitioners (UK), have produced a framework for implementing a scheme for **Dentists with Special Interests (DwSIs)**. The framework is in line with special interests schemes that have been developed for other health care professionals, particularly general medical practice. A DwSIs may deliver a clinical service beyond that normally provided by a primary dental care practitioner or may deliver a particular type of treatment.

Brent Community Dentistry Service (Brent CDS) is the responsibility of Brent PCT from 1st April 07. Previously this service was run through Hammersmith and Fulham PCT shared services. There will be two main sites for the provision of CDS treatment Willesden & Wembley Centre for Health Care. The general dental services in Brent refer children, adults to Brent CDS.

Current issues with new contract. The PCT has had concerns regarding patients with learning disabilities accessing treatment at North West London Hospital Trust. This matter has been dealt with the Head of Contracting, verbal confirmation from NW London Hospital Trust that LD patients should have no problems accessing dental care.

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