



## **GDS PRESCRIBING PROFILE October 2004 to September 2005**

**(For the purpose of moving to the planned new contracting arrangements in April 2006)**

**This document should be read in conjunction with the prescribing profile.**

The prescribing profile shows for each contract:

- A financial summary for the period October 2004 to September 2005
- An age profile of registered patients
- An itemised list of the treatments carried out
- Essential information on contract value and activity requirements to be used in discussions on the new contract

### **Introduction**

This prescribing profile retains many of the features of the document issued to GDS dentists each summer. However, there are some significant differences. The prime purpose of the document is to provide the dentist with the **contract value** and the associated **contract activity requirement** that will form the basis of discussions with the Primary Care Trust (PCT). The summary section on page 6 of the profile brings together the key elements, and contained within the body of the profile is the information used to calculate these values.

The **contract value** is based on the fees earned and additional payments made to the dentist during the period October 2004 to September 2005 inclusive. Details of the components of the gross fees and additional payments are set out in the finance section of the profile (page 2), together with the calculation of the **contract value**.

Under the new regulations treatment carried out will have associated with it a measure of activity, weighted to reflect its complexity. The **contract activity requirement** given in this document will form the basis for the discussions with the PCT on the level of activity required under the new regulations. The calculation is based on the treatment claims scheduled during the period October 2004 to September 2005 and on the average child registration during that same period.

**PLEASE NOTE Profiles have been produced and distributed for all contracts where fee payments (however small) were made during the period October 2004 to September 2005. Not all of these contracts will necessarily be relevant to the discussions to be held with the PCT. Every attempt has been made to match amendment claims to original claim submissions to ensure that the calculations are based on the most accurate information available at the time of production. Discussions on required activity levels for those practices already working in PDS will be based on information to be sent to providers by the PCT.**



## Calculation of the Contract Value

The financial section of the profile (top of page 2) shows for each category of gross fees the amount of money paid during the twelve months and the proportion that each category contributes to the total gross fees. The document lists payments received during the twelve months for those allowances included in the calculation of the contract value (that is Continuing Professional Development Allowance (CPDA), CPDA travel, and clinical audit payment). Other allowances received during the year are listed separately.

The total value of the gross fees and additional payments is given, together with its equivalent value at 2005 / 06 prices; this last figure is the **contract value**. The factor used for uprating existing values to their 2005 / 06 equivalent is 1.0233 ; this represents an uplift of 2.33 per cent. The uplift reflects the fact that the reference period goes across two financial years. It also allows for the lag between when treatment is carried out and when claims are processed by the Dental Practice Board (DPB).

The figure quoted in this profile as the **contract value** does not include seniority payment; this will be paid to qualifying dentists in addition to the contract value quoted on the profile and will not be associated with any additional activity requirement. The amount of seniority payment received during the period covered by the profile is shown with the other payments.

## Calculation of the Contract Activity Requirement

For the purpose of calculating contract activity requirements claims were categorised as either orthodontic or non-orthodontic and the two types of claim were treated differently; for orthodontic claims the value of the claims was used to determine activity and for non-orthodontic claims it was based on the actual treatment recorded on the claim. An orthodontic claim was defined as any claim that included the fitting or repair of an orthodontic appliance, or an interim payment for such work. All other claims were defined as non-orthodontic claims.

Although it is not used for calculating activity requirements a figure is quoted in the profile for the value of the non-orthodontic work. It is calculated as the balance of all fee payments (including commitment pay) after the deduction of the value of the orthodontic claims.

### A) Contract Activity Requirement for Orthodontic Work

The calculation is based on the total value of the treatment on orthodontic claims scheduled during the period October 2004 to September 2005. These claims have been excluded from the calculation of activity requirements for non-orthodontic treatment, even if they include non-orthodontic treatment. The **contract activity requirement for orthodontic work** is calculated as the total value of the treatment associated with the orthodontic claims divided by 55, the result rounded to the nearest whole number. The calculation is set out on page 6 of the profile.

### B) Contract Activity Requirement for Non-orthodontic Work

The activity measure for non-orthodontic treatment has two components, namely the activity associated with:

1. Courses of treatment paid on an item of service basis (**treatment units**)
2. Treatment to children currently paid for under capitation (**child capitation units**).

**The sum of the child capitation and treatment units less a five percent reduction is the contract activity requirement for non-orthodontic work.** The calculation of the child capitation units is shown with the registration figures (bottom of page 2) and the calculation of treatment units is shown in detail on page 3 of the profile. The calculation of the **contract activity requirement for non-orthodontic work**, showing the five percent reduction and the final value, is set out in the summary section of the profile (page 6).

### 1. Treatment Units

Under the new regulations each course of dental treatment will be given a weighting to reflect the complexity of the treatments carried out. To a large extent weightings (to be called Units of Dental Activity) will relate directly to patient charge bands. Each charge band will have a weighting, as will courses of treatment classified as urgent. There will also be a weighting for five other treatments if they are carried out separately from a banded or urgent course of treatment. The weightings are shown in the table below.

Treatment	Units of Dental Activity (UDA)
Patient Charge Band 1	1
Patient Charge Band 2	3
Patient Charge Band 3	12
Urgent Treatment	1.2

#### Other Treatments not incurring patient charge

Arrest of Bleeding	1.2
Denture Repairs	1
Bridge Repairs	1.2
Removal of Sutures	1
Issue of Prescription	0.75

The Department of Health has identified for all treatments on the current Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR) the patient charge band into which the treatment will fall when the new regulations take effect. Using this the DPB has matched each non-orthodontic course of treatment scheduled within the period October 2004 to September 2005 to the appropriate charge band. Where individual treatments within a course of treatment were in different bands, then the activity level for the entire course of treatment was determined as being equal to the highest activity level associated with the individual treatments.

Where a course of treatment consisted entirely of treatments that were classified as urgent, the course of treatment attracted an activity value of 1.2. Where a course of treatment consisted entirely of treatments that did not fall into any of the charge bands (or were not classed as urgent) a weighting was given only if the course of treatment included one of the five treatments listed in the table above. If the course of treatment included more than one of these treatments the weighting given was the highest weighting of the individual treatments.

#### **example 1**

A course of treatment consisting of an examination and a scale and polish will be classed as Band 1 as both treatments are classed as Band 1 treatments. The course of treatment will have associated with it 1 Unit of Dental Activity.

#### **example 2**

A course of treatment consisting of an examination, a scale and polish and also a filling (which is a Band 2 treatment) will be classed as Band 2. It will have an associated 3 Units of Dental Activity.

#### **example 3**

A course of treatment consisting of an examination, a scale and polish, a filling and a bridge repair will be classed as Band 2. It will have an associated 3 Units of Dental Activity.

#### **example 4**

A course of treatment consisting of the issue of a prescription only will be classed as a treatment free of patient charge, but it will have an associated 0.75 Units of Dental Activity.

#### **example 5**

A course of treatment consisting of the issue of a prescription and the repair of a bridge will be classed as a treatment free of patient charge, but it will have an associated 1.2 Units of Dental Activity (the larger of 1.2 and 0.75).

The first table on page 3 of the profile shows a detailed analysis of how many courses of treatment have been classified into each band (or treatment type) for each category of patient. It also shows the associated weighting. The second table summarises the figures by band (or



treatment type) and includes a figure for the total number of treatment units associated with non-orthodontic treatment.

## 2. Child Capitation Units

Under current GDS regulations the payment for certain child treatments (for example, clinical examination) is included within the capitation payment; the dentist is not required to submit separate claims for these treatments. Under the new regulations courses of treatment of this type will be recorded as a Band 1 course of treatment and will have associated with them 1 Unit of Dental Activity.

To estimate the amount of 'capitation only' treatment carried out on the existing contract a calculation has been made using the average child registration; this is defined as the sum of the figures for each quarter divided by four. On the assumption that a child attends for examination twice within a twelve-month period, the average registration figure is doubled to estimate the total number of visits by children during the twelve month period. Where a child has received additional treatment a claim will have been submitted. The number of such claims is subtracted to give the estimate of the number of visits involving 'capitation only' treatment. For contracts with no child registrations, or where the number of non-orthodontic child claims submitted exceeds the estimated number of child visits, the child capitation units have been set as zero.

### example 6

If the child registrations in the four quarters are 25, 25, 30 and 40 the average child registration is 30 (120 divided by 4) and the estimate of the number of child visits is 60 (2 times 30). If in addition there are 15 claims for non-orthodontic child treatment, then the number of child visits for 'capitation only' treatment is estimated as 45 (60 less 15). The **child capitation units** will also be 45, there being one unit for each visit of this type.

### Summary (Page 6 bottom of page)

In this section the key information required for contract discussions with the PCT has been brought together. The contract discussions centre around the **contract value** and the **contract activity requirement**, both of these are given in this summary section.

All figures quoted in the summary section of the profile are given to the nearest whole number.

#### i) Contracts with no orthodontic treatment (see example 7 below)

The activity associated with the existing contract is defined as the sum of treatment units and the child capitation units. **The activity required for the new contract is set at five percent less than the current activity and is the final entry of the first column of the table.**

### example 7

#### Units of Activity

	Non-orthodontic	Orthodontic
Child Capitation Units	859	
Treatment Units	6,199	0
Total Activity Treatment and Child Capitation	7,058	
Less 5% reduction	353	
<b>Contract Activity Requirement</b>	<b>6,705</b>	<b>0</b>

#### Contract Value

	October 04 to September 05	2005 / 06 equivalent prices
Non-orthodontic treatment	£119,331	£122,111
Orthodontic treatment	£0	£0
Additional payments	£7,774	£7,955
<b>Contract Value Excluding Seniority Payment</b>		<b>£130,066</b>

The **contract value** is £130,066 (the figure comes from the financial section of the profile) and the associated **contract activity requirement** is 6,705 units. This activity figure has been calculated by adding up the units for child capitation and non-orthodontic treatment (859 plus 6,199 equals 7,058), and then reducing that total by 5 per cent to give 6,705 (7,058 less 353).

ii) **Contracts with only orthodontic activity** (see example 8)

A calculation of activity for orthodontic treatment is carried out by dividing the value of the orthodontic claims (£200,000) by 55 to give 3,636.36 and then rounding the answer to 3,636. No further addition is made to this figure and no reduction is applied. This figure is the **contract activity requirement for the new contract** and it is the final entry in the second column of the table.

**example 8**  
**Units of Activity**

	Non-orthodontic	Orthodontic
Child Capitation Units	0	
Treatment Units	0	3,636
Total Activity Treatment and Child Capitation	0	
Less 5% reduction	0	
<b>Contract Activity Requirement</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,636</b>

**Contract Value**

	October 04 to September 05	2005 / 06 equivalent prices
Non-orthodontic treatment	£0	£0
Orthodontic treatment	£200,000	£204,660
Additional payments	£7,774	£7,955
<b>Contract Value Excluding Seniority Payment</b>		<b>£212,615</b>

The **contract value** is £212,615 (the figure comes from the financial section of the profile) and the **contract activity requirement** is 3,636 units.

iii) **Contracts with both orthodontic and non-orthodontic activity** (see example 9)

For this type of contract there will be a single contract value but there will be two activity requirements, one for orthodontic treatment and one for non-orthodontic treatment. In some cases one of these components may be so small that it can be discounted with the agreement of the PCT. If in discussions with the PCT it is decided to provide only one type of service then either the contract value will need to be reduced or a new activity level agreed.

**example 9**  
**Units of Activity**

	Non-orthodontic	Orthodontic
Child Capitation Units	859	
Treatment Units	6,199	3,636
Total Activity Treatment and Child Capitation	7,058	
Less 5% reduction	353	
<b>Contract Activity Requirement</b>	<b>6,705</b>	<b>3,636</b>

**Contract Value**

	October 04 to September 05	2005 / 06 equivalent prices
Non-orthodontic treatment	£119,331	£122,111
Orthodontic treatment	£200,000	£204,660
Additional payments	£7,774	£7,955
<b>Contract Value Excluding Seniority Payment</b>		<b>£334,726</b>

The **contract value** is £334,726 (the figure comes from the financial section of the profile) and the **contract activity requirement** for the full year for this payment is 6,705 of non-orthodontic treatment **AND** 3,636 units of orthodontic treatment. The calculation of the two activity elements is as illustrated in previous examples with the claims being identified as either orthodontic or non-orthodontic.



**NOTE** For those dentists who carry out a mixed practice including both orthodontic and non-orthodontic treatment there will be a calculation of both an orthodontic and a non-orthodontic activity requirement. In some cases the value of one or other of these is so small that it may effectively be ignored. Also, for some orthodontists, because of the way claims are submitted, treatment that forms part of the orthodontic course (for example, the initial examination) will have been counted within the non-orthodontic activity requirement rather than the orthodontic activity requirement. The division of activity requirement between orthodontic and non-orthodontic work will be agreed in the discussions with the PCT, and this may require adjustments to the figures given in the profile.

### **Other Information included on the profile**

The registration age profiles (page 2) and the treatment profiles (pages 5 and 6) do not form part of the calculations of contract value or activity requirement, but are part of the normal profile and are given here for consistency and to provide background information.

### **Registration Figures (Page 2 bottom of page)**

The tables show the age profile of the patients registered with the dentist on the last day of each quarter for December 2004, March 2005, June 2005 and September 2005. The accuracy of these figures relies on information received by the DPB from dentists and Primary Care Trusts relating to the transfer of registrations between contracts. The figures provide snapshots of the registration profile at particular points in time. Patients included in the earlier snapshots may have lapsed their registration (or moved to another dentist) before the end of the reporting period. Also, patients counted in the September snapshot may have only recently been transferred to the dentist and registration capitation and/or continuing care payments may not have been made in September 2005.

### **Item of Service Indicators**

**(Page 5 for non-orthodontic treatment and page 6 top of page for orthodontic treatment)**

This section of the profile is designed to provide a comparison of the different treatments carried out. For each treatment listed the table shows either the number of claims submitted that included that treatment or, in the case of extractions, fillings and crowns, the number of teeth treated. (Where more than one filling treatment was applied to the same tooth the count measures the number of filling treatments.) Claims with more than one treatment will be counted against each of the treatments and therefore counted more than once in this table.