

Double Dental Joy for NHS Lanarkshire

There was a double celebration at the national 2012 Dental Awards when NHS Lanarkshire won two awards. The awards are regarded within the industry as the dental Oscars.

Elaine Sharp, senior oral health educator was named Oral Health Promoter of the Year, while NHS Lanarkshire's Oral Health Team was named Team of the Year (North). Elaine became the first person in Scotland to win this award and the Oral Health Team repeated its success in 2008.

The awards were achieved for the project which included the production of 'Harry and Molly's Adventures' series targeted to promote good oral health among nursery and primary school children. NHS Lanarkshire's Health Improvement Team and North Lanarkshire Council also contributed to this project.

Oral health of children in Lanarkshire is improving, however, the percentage of Lanarkshire children with decayed teeth remains above the national average. NHS Lanarkshire continues to tackle this through the promotion of toothbrushing, healthy eating and the Childsmile fluoride varnishing programme.

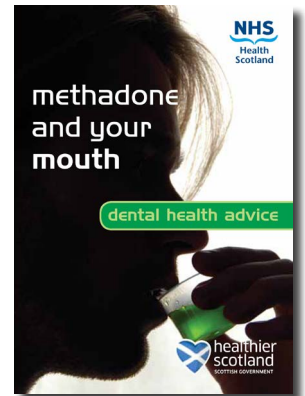


Elaine (centre) is pictured receiving her award from event compere Mitch Benn and Maggie Young of Wrigley

Methadone and Your Mouth

A leaflet giving oral health advice for people prescribed methadone was published in April 2012 by NHS Health Scotland. The leaflet provides general advice on oral health care, who gets free NHS dental treatment, how to find NHS dental treatment, and other relevant information related to prescribed methadone.

The leaflet can be downloaded from www.healthscotland.com/documents/5816.aspx



Know Who to Turn to Campaign

Each year the accident and emergency departments in Lanarkshire's hospitals provide services to more than 200,000 patients, many of whom could have been treated by local health professionals. NHS Lanarkshire's Know Who to Turn to Campaign is encouraging people to access the right care in the right place at the right time. A dedicated section on the website has been set up to offer appropriate advice. The 'Dentist' page, which gives instruction on how, when and where to access dental care, is available from

www.nhslanarkshire.org.uk/Services/Know-Who-To-Turn-To/Pages/Dentist.aspx

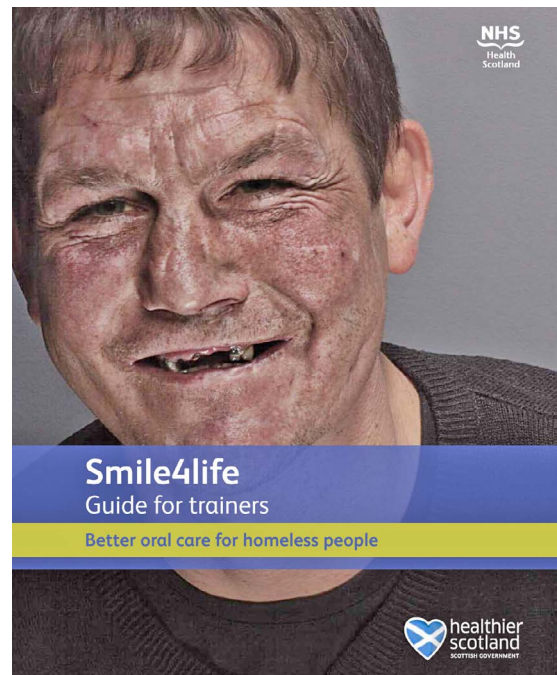


Smile4life Guide for Trainers Launched

Each year about 6,000 people in Lanarkshire make housing applications due to homelessness. People become homeless due to a variety of circumstances such as relationship breakdown, domestic abuse and unemployment. Homeless people experience significant health inequalities including oral health, therefore they have been identified as a priority group in several Scottish Government policies, such as the *Dental Strategy for Priority Groups* and *Equally Well*.

In response, the National Homeless Oral Health Improvement Group and University of Dundee Dental Health Services Research Unit developed a national oral health improvement programme. On 12 June 2012, the new resource Smile4life Guide for Trainers was launched and a training event for trainers was held. The training programme aims to up-skill workers to support homeless people in behaviour change and access dental services. This programme will be adapted for use in Lanarkshire by NHS Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire and North Lanarkshire councils and the voluntary sector.

The Guide for Trainers and the training day presentations are available from www.dundee.ac.uk/dhsru/smile4life



Decontamination into Practice (Part 2)

Decontamination into Practice comprises of two parts. Part 1, *Cleaning of Dental Instruments*, was published in 2007. Part 2, *Sterilization of Dental Instruments*, was published in 2011, and is the focus of this article.

Part 2 includes advice on equipment purchase, important considerations, procedures and equipment testing. Also included are the Appendices and References, with information about the key personnel involved with decontamination, contact details for training, procurement and support, and references.

All the parts of Decontamination into Practice can be downloaded from www.sdcep.org.uk/?o=3135

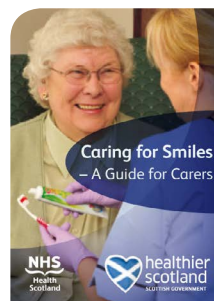
An updated list of approved dental decontamination equipment is available from www.scottishdental.org/?o=7426

In addition, a number of pre-approved infection control and decontamination audits have been made available. For more information, visit www.scottishdental.org/?o=1019&newsitem=1091

December 2011

Caring for Smiles - A Guide for Carers

NHS Health Scotland has recently published 'Caring for Smiles - A Guide for Carers' in the format of a concertina card. This is a training guide for oral health professionals to deliver training to the staff in care homes. The guide includes the 'code' of: respect, wash and explain. The 'Caring for Smiles' card can be downloaded from www.healthscotland.com/documents/5751.aspx



Cleaning the mouth, teeth and dentures (oral care) is part of personal care.

Everybody should clean their teeth or dentures at least twice a day.

Cleaning the mouth, teeth or dentures helps make sure older people:

- are comfortable
- are able to eat, drink and talk
- are free from pain
- feel better about themselves.

Encourage and assist older people to clean their own teeth or dentures. If they are not able to do this, then you can help them.

Speak to your line manager to report a concern or if you:

- feel the older person needs to see a dentist or
- feel the older person is too unwell for you to care for their mouth or
- feel there are any other problems in keeping the older person's mouth and teeth clean.

But first follow the **code**:



Dental Strategy for Priority Groups

Michael Matheson, Minister for Public Health, launched a new dental strategy for priority groups in June 2012. The strategy will improve dental care for older people, the homeless and those with learning disabilities who often experience poor oral health.



Mr Matheson launched the strategy at a visit to a care home in Fife which has received the Fife Oral Health Care Award. The award is a pilot scheme to help raise standards of oral care for care home residents. The new strategy will build on the work of the Fife pilot project.

The new strategy will ensure that people in these priority groups get the treatment they need to prevent oral disease. The strategy can be downloaded from www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00394171.pdf

Oral Health Care of People with Learning Disabilities

The updated version of the *Clinical Guidelines and Integrated Care Pathways for the Oral Health Care of People with Learning Disabilities* was launched in May 2012.

Each chapter and section has been reviewed and expanded upon, in light of new evidence and developments since the original publication in 2001. The new version can be downloaded from

www.bsdh.org.uk/guidelines/BSDH_Clinical_Guidelines_PwaLD_2012.pdf

Clinical Guidelines and Integrated Care Pathways for the Oral Health Care of People with Learning Disabilities 2012

Principles of Ethical Advertising

The General Dental Council (GDC) has recently issued new guidance on ethical advertising by dental professionals. The GDC guidance aimed to ensure that patients are not misled and to provide more clarity to the dental profession on what should and should not be included in any promotional material. Specific areas of guidance include: advertising of services, websites, use of specialist titles as well as honorary degrees and memberships.

The full guidance is available from www.gdc-uk.org/Dentalprofessionals/Standards/Pages/Ethical-advertising.aspx

Oral Health and Nutrition Guidance for Professionals

A new resource entitled *Oral Health and Nutrition Guidance for Professionals* was published in June 2012 to support the dental team in delivering the nutritional outcomes of the Scottish Government's oral health improvement strategies.

The guidance covers advice on: diet and nutrition, oral health, between-meals food and drink, and recommendations for specific groups, such as under-5s and nutritionally vulnerable older people.

The guidance can be downloaded from www.healthscotland.com/documents/5885.aspx

NHS Health Scotland

Oral Health and Nutrition Guidance for Professionals

June 2012

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Interview with Vikas Sood



Vikas Sood, Consultant
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon

Tell us something about yourself.

I obtained my medical and dental degrees from the University of London. After gaining my FDSRCS and intercollegiate MRCS, I moved to Glasgow in 2006 for my Higher Surgical Training in OMFS. I completed my FRCS (OMFS) towards the end of my training in 2010.

Why did you choose to specialise in oral and maxillofacial surgery?

From an early stage in my undergraduate training, I developed an interest in head and neck surgery with the associated functional and aesthetic challenges that are involved. I was fascinated by the anatomy of the head and neck as there are so many structures based in such a small area of the body. My interests are predominantly orthognathic surgery, maxillofacial trauma and skin cancer of the head and neck.

What has been the major challenge so far in your career?

The main challenge has been to complete my training whilst balancing my work and home life, especially bringing up my young family.

What do you do in your spare time?

I am a keen cook and DIY enthusiast, and will try my hand at anything after enjoying time with my family.

Smokefree & Smiling



The use of tobacco is the leading cause of preventable illness and mortality in the developed world. General Dental Practitioners (GDPs) are frequently discussing the dangers of smoking with patients but referrals into the NHS Lanarkshire Stop Smoking Service (SSS) are sparse. NHS Lanarkshire is testing a short intervention to increase referral from GDPs to the SSS and is monitoring dental patient progress within the SSS. For more information on participating in the randomised controlled trial, please contact Kieran Watters on 01698 858318 or Kieran.Watters@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk

An e-learning resource on 'Raising the issue of smoking for the dental team' is available from www.portal.scot.nhs.uk

Restorative Dentistry Needs Assessment Report

The Scottish Dental Needs Assessment Programme (SDNAP) commissioned a working group in 2009 to conduct a restorative dentistry health needs assessment and to assess the provision of specialist restorative dentistry service across Scotland.

The Restorative Dentistry Needs Assessment Report was published in July 2012. One key finding showed that there is a substantial demand for specialist restorative dentistry services, highlighting challenges in workforce development. The report recommended the need for a national protocol for referrals and the addition of an intermediate grade to the existing workforce.

The full report is available from www.scottishdental.org/?o=2156

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