Official Opening of Buchanan Centre

The dental outreach facility was the jewel in the crown when the new Buchanan Centre was officially opened in December 2010.

Guests given a tour of the £18 million state-of-the-art facility in Coatbridge were clearly impressed as it is one of Scotland’s largest. This new outreach facility not only provides specialist dental care to local people but also gives final year dental students and dental hygiene/therapy students the chance to get frontline experience under expert supervision.

Mike Devine, NHS Lanarkshire’s Director of Community and Salaried Primary Care Dental Services, said: “The Buchanan Centre has proved to be a huge success among both patients and staff. The public are clearly enjoying visiting the new centre and the staff from both NHS Lanarkshire and North Lanarkshire Council are enjoying working with each other.

“The building has also firmly established itself as part of the local landscape as there are not many local people who don’t know where the Buchanan Centre is and what it does.”

As well as the outreach facility, the four-storey, 8000 square metre building houses a First Stop Shop, library, registration office, a purpose built ceremonies suite, two general dental practices, two GP surgeries and a range of community health services.

It is expected to see one million visitors each year.

NHS Inform

NHS Inform is a new health information service designed to give the public access to the information they need, when they need it. It is available both online and over the telephone.

NHS Inform can answer questions like: where to find a NHS dentist, how to join a stop-smoking group, or what vaccinations are required etc.

Decontamination - frequently asked questions

A new web page has been recently added to the Scottish Dental website to provide answers to frequently asked questions regarding decontamination. The answers have been provided by the Dental Decontamination Sub Group, which was established to look at specific issues faced by GDPs and is chaired by the Chief Dental Officer. The following is the link to the web page:

www.scottishdental.org/?o=2814
Domiciliary Dental Care: Needs Assessment Report

In October 2010 the Dementia Services Development Centre, Stirling was the venue for the launch of the SDNAP needs assessment report into Domiciliary Dental Care across Scotland. The working group was chaired by Maura Edwards, Consultant in Dental Public Health for Ayrshire & Arran, and included representatives from the dental world along with those working with the elderly. The report looked at the historical and current provision of domiciliary dental care, identified gaps and difficulties with service provision and then went on to make recommendations for the future based on best practice.

The recommendations covered 6 broad headings:
1. Prevention
2. Service provision
3. Finance
4. Information Needs
5. Training
6. General recommendations

Dental Poster for Addiction Services

In a drive to improve access to dental care for clients of the Addiction Services, posters highlighting the pathway to dental services will be displayed in pharmacies which provide supervised dispensing of methadone. These posters are also given to frontline drug workers during oral health training to enable them to advise clients.

SDCEP online manual for the dental team

Running a primary care dental practice is a challenging task and requires keeping up to date with relevant legislations and professional regulations, together with coordinating several diverse activities. The Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme (SDCEP) has recently developed a Practical Support Manual (PSM) as an online resource for the whole dental team. The following is a link to the PSM website which is freely available to the dental profession in Scotland:

www.psm.sdcep.org.uk
NDIP 2010 result makes fantastic news for Lanarkshire

The overall dental health of primary one (P1) pupils has reached the highest levels ever recorded in Scotland. The full report published at the end of 2010 by the National Dental Inspection Programme (NDIP) showed that 12 out of the 14 NHS Boards have reached the target of 60% of P1 pupils showing no signs of obvious decay experience in the primary teeth by 2010.

The fantastic news is that 60.8% of P1 children in Lanarkshire were caries free. Therefore NHS Lanarkshire has achieved the Dental Health Action Plan Target of 60% P1 children with no obvious decay experience by 2010. That figure was 47.4% in 2004, which means in only six years Lanarkshire has improved by 13.4%. What an amazing achievement in a region where there are still many pockets of deprivation.

Wrapping Dental Instruments

The Scottish Health Technologies Group (SHTG) has recently issued the following advice statement regarding wrapping dental instruments:

**Advice:**

Despite the existence of several best practice guidance documents, SHTG has determined that there is as yet insufficient evidence from research to support the proposed change from current practice to wrap dental instruments after sterilisation and prior to use. There is no evidence of added benefit to change current practice within NHSScotland. This statement will be reviewed in 12 months’ time.

More information is available on:

Nutrition and Oral Health Pack

The Nutrition and Oral Health - Strategy into Practice in the Early Years resource has been updated in 2010 and distributed to all early years establishments in Lanarkshire. The resource is currently being distributed to other childcare providers such as childminders, foster carers and play-leaders. It accompanies a training programme on nutrition and oral health.

Interview with Stephanie Campbell

Stephanie Campbell has been working as a health promotion officer responsible for the HMP Shotts oral health improvement project since June 2008.

Q What is it like to work in a prison environment?
A The prison is a very safe environment and staff receive training on how to cope with security and psychological incidents. There are cameras everywhere as well as staff alarms. The keys I carry are tagged so that my movements are tracked. In general, prisoners are respectful towards me.

Q What challenges have you faced so far in this project?
A One particular challenge was to engage with prison staff and work towards common goals. It was a steep learning curve to work in a new environment. However, I found the prisoners to be very receptive and keen to be involved as there are positive changes for them. Another challenge was learning the language they use inside the prison.

Q What would you like to achieve by the end of the project?
A I would hope prisoners, their families and prison staff have a better understanding of the importance of good oral health which could be reported in their behaviours. I also hope to gather enough evidence to support similar projects for the future.

Q What has this project taught you about yourself?
A In order to succeed, you need thick skin and patience.

News Extra

Consultant Orthodontist
David Lonnen retired from NHS Lanarkshire in February 2011.

Consultant Orthodontist
Ross Jones is now based at Hairmyres Hospital.

Following the restructuring of the Clinical Governance Department, the new dental audit contact is Stacey Rooney, Clinical Quality Team Manager, Wishaw General Hospital, Tel: 01698 366526; stacey.rooney@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk

Thanks to Bill White for his contributions to Dental Audit during the past nine years.

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www.nhslanarkshire.org.uk/Services/Oral/Pages/KeepLanarkshireSmiling.aspx