

DIFFERENCES IN HTM01 05 FUNDING IN OTHER UK COUNTRIES

It may be of interest to those of you in Dorset, that funding for HTM01-05 varies greatly depending on where in the UK you practice

SCOTLAND

A large practice in Scotland (4 partners, 2/3 Associates etc) with the minimum NHS commitment, that is an 80% private practice, has received a grant of £35, 000 to install a decontamination unit. This consists of a semi-divided room with dirty and clean sides, a washer disinfecter with 'reverse osmosis' ionised water supply, vacuum autoclave and airflow from the clean to dirty side. Full best practice HTM 01 05 compliance. Incidentally, there has been many incidents reported with ionised water causing problems with the rubber gaskets at the rear of the washer/disinfectors. Incidentally, Scottish dentists are still on the old pre 2006 SDR, and registration of patients has now been increased to life with continuing care payments being reduced after 3 years. This can form up to 20% of a mainly NHS practice's gross income.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Ulster practitioners have received a grant of £1.40 per registered patient for HTM 01 05 compliance, so this varies greatly depending on the size and NHS commitment of the practice. The patient registration period has been increased from 15 months to 2 years and they also still use the old pre 2006 SDR. Oasis have opened 12 NHS practices in Northern Ireland as the major corporate player.