



23 July 2021

**Angus Walls, Director**

Combined Practice Inspection

Edinburgh Dental Institute  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor Lauriston Building  
Lauriston Place  
Edinburgh EH3 9HA

Dear Colleague,

+44 (0)131 536 4975  
angus.walls@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk

## Combined Practice Inspection

As you will be aware the CPI process has been put on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic response. I am writing to inform you that the national Directors of Dentistry have agreed that the three-yearly Combined Practice Inspection (CPI) will re-start across all Health Boards from 01 September 2021. NHS Lothian have approved this restart and have agreed that the CPI clock should be “reset” with a new clock start date of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021. This process is common with all Health Boards in Scotland

An overview to the CPI process / restart;

- This will commence with the practices that were scheduled for a CPI in March/April 2020, and then progress to complete all practice inspections during the 3-year period September 2021 to August 2024. Practices may experience up to an 18-month delay in the CPI process.
- A **COVID Appendix** will be added and sent to practices prior to their inspection. This will be used alongside the CPI checklist and is a reminder that SOPs should be updated in line with current national guidance and all staff are aware of and adhering to the SOPs.
- Practice inspections will be carried out through a visit to your practice by the inspection team.
- In order to help reduce unnecessary footfall within dental practices, we may request electronic submission of the relevant documentation in advance of the agreed visitation appointment. Some Health Boards are already undertaking this and it is proving very successful in reducing the time inspection teams spend in practices and, therefore, the disruption within the practice.
- A practice visit will still be necessary to complete the inspection to satisfaction. In extenuating circumstances, a virtual visit can be arranged.

The CPI *Version 4.0* will be used (January 2020) and can be found at the following link;

[https://www.scottishdental.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/2020\\_02\\_01-CPI-Checklist-v4.pdf](https://www.scottishdental.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/2020_02_01-CPI-Checklist-v4.pdf)



Version 4.0 was due to be implemented as of 01 May 2020. However, as this has not been adopted as yet, the salient points are as follows;

1. There will be no requirement for practices to undertake the additional legionella requirements. Essentially;
  - practices will not be expected to have carried out a risk assessment or have a written control scheme for this inspection round.
  - practices will be expected to follow procedures for treating waterlines (flushing, and biocide decontamination as recommended by manufacturer) and have a system for recording this in place (as per CPI v3.0).
2. There is a new section of the SDCEP Practice Support Manual to provide comprehensive guidance for updated Radiation Protection;

<http://www.psm.sdcep.org.uk/updated-resources-for-radiation-protection-now-available/>

3. Duty of Candour – practices should be compliant with the requirements, implemented as of 01 April 2018.

<https://www.psm.sdcep.org.uk/content/communication/templates-for-communication/>

4. GDPR – practices should be compliant with the requirements, implemented as of 25 May 2018.

<https://www.psm.sdcep.org.uk/content/ethical-practice/general-data-protection-regulations-gdpr/>

Please feel free to contact [dental.contract@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:dental.contract@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk) for any further advice, guidance or clarification with any of these matters.

Yours sincerely

Angus Walls