

Area Team Reference No. 00781

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To: Directors of Commissioning

(via email)

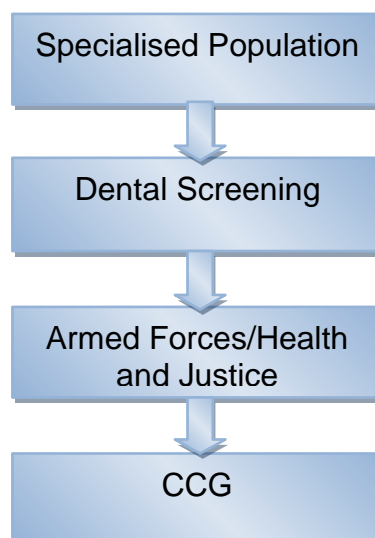
Dear Colleague,

Secondary dental care payments and hierarchy of direct commissioning services

There have been on-going discussions regarding secondary care dental payments for the armed forces and health and justice services. An agreement has been reached whereby all secondary care dental payments will be made from within the primary care budget.

This decision offers both a clinical and financial benefits to the system. Clinically, this alignment will ensure that the Local Dental Network has scope to consider all dental pathways of care across their geography better ensuring a consistency of offer and addressing inequalities for often neglected groups. In addition, because the original disaggregation guidance to PCTs did not ask to separate armed forces and health and justice allocation from within the secondary care dental budget, the budget for secondary care dental care for these groups is retained by all 27 area teams. There should be no requirement to realign area team budgets

In terms of hierarchy for direct commissioning, please find below a brief outline:



I hope that you agree that this decision will support consistency across England and ensure that patient needs are addressed more efficiently.

Yours Sincerely



Dr David Geddes
Head of Primary Care Commissioning
GMC no. 3253722



Kate Davies OBE
Head of Public Health, Armed Forces and their
Families and Health & Justice