

Dear Colleague

**1. PHASING DOWN OF DENTAL AMALGAM**  
**2. AMENDMENT NO. 138 TO THE STATEMENT OF DENTAL REMUNERATION (SDR)**

**Summary**

1. This letter advises NHS Boards and Practitioner Services of the new arrangements relating to the phasing down of dental amalgam. This includes guidance regarding alternatives to dental amalgam, when they should be used and the exceptions to this.

2. This letter also advises of Amendment No. 138 to the Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR), which takes effect from 1 July 2018.

**Background**

3. From 1 July 2018 an EU Directive will place a legally-binding obligation to terminate the use of dental amalgam in deciduous teeth, children under 15 years of age and for pregnant and breastfeeding women (in Scotland dental amalgam is currently not used for pregnant and breastfeeding women). Further information can be found at:

<http://www.sdcep.org.uk/published-guidance/dental-amalgam/>

4. The Memorandum to this letter provides more information on the changes to the SDR.

15 June 2018

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**Addresses**

For action

Chief Executives, NHS Boards

Director, Practitioner Services

For information

Chief Executive,  
NHS National Services Scotland

Chief Executive,  
NHS Education for Scotland

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## Action

5. NHS Boards are asked to urgently issue the Memorandum to this letter to all dentists and dental bodies corporate on their dental lists.

Yours sincerely

MARGIE TAYLOR  
Chief Dental Officer