

Thames Valley and Wessex anti-microbial prescribing audit project FAQs

- **What is the audit project about?**
 - The audit project gives dentists in Thames Valley and Wessex the opportunity to improve their anti-microbial prescribing habits by completing two audit cycles. By participating in the audit project dentists are given guidance, support and individual feedback on their prescribing habits. They also receive a payment for completing the two audits.
 - The aim of participating in the clinical audits is for dentists to be supported to improve their prescribing practise for acute dental problems.
 - Performers and providers (contract holders) are remunerated for their involvement.
- **How will the audits work?**
 - Participants who sign up to the audit project are required to take part in two audit cycles, taking place in 2017. Each audit cycle will involve submitting prescribing data for ten consecutive patients for whom antimicrobials have been prescribed (for acute dental problems).
 - Once you have signed up to take part in the audits you will have access to an online tool where you can submit your audit data.
 - For each patient you will need to input data via the online tool.
 - You may find that the audit is more easily completed if data is entered during or shortly after the appointment. However, you can choose to enter data in batches if you prefer
 - Once you have submitted data for the first 3 patients you will be sent a resource pack (including posters and leaflets)
 - The online tool will give you information on how many patients' data you have entered and how many you still need to complete.
 - After each audit cycle is complete you will receive feedback on your prescribing habits in line with national standards and guidance.
 - To access the audit tool click: <https://www.dental-referrals.org/dentists/amr-audit-cycle/>
- **Will individual poor practice be identified?**
 - No. The aim of the audit project is to improve anti-microbial prescribing habits, and not to judge a participants' individual practise.
 - Individual data will not be shared with any other organisation therefore no individual will be at risk of being reprimanded by any regulatory body.

- **Data protection and confidentiality?**
 - The audit is completely confidential and participating practitioners are anonymised.
 - All data is handled in accordance with the Data protection act (1998 and 2003).
 - The company commissioned to provide the online audit tool (Dental Referrals) will only send the audit project team anonymised and non-identifiable data for evaluation purposes.
 - Any evaluation report or publication relating to the audit project, will not contain individual identifiable data.

- **How much will I get remunerated?**
 - £75 per practitioner (performer)
 - £50 per practice (contract holder) (please note: this will only be paid once even if more than one practitioner from a practice is taking part in the audit)

- **How will this be paid?**
 - When you have completed two audit cycles you will be sent an invoice to submit to Health Education England, Thames Valley. HEE will then administer the payment.
 - Important: invoices will only be sent on completion of both audit cycles
 - The deadline for invoices is 10th January 2018. Invoices received after this date may not be paid.

- **What will happen to the data submit?**
 - The data will be collated and processed by Dental Referrals. It will then be sent to individual participants along with a comparison against their peers (anonymised).
 - Aggregated data will then be evaluated by the project team to produce a final report and publication on the project

- **How much of my time will it take to participate?**
 - We require dentists to take part in two audit cycles which require ten online submissions each. It should take only a few minutes to fill out the submission for each patient.
 - Each prescribing submission can be submitted individually in real-time therefore avoiding the need to input data all at once.

- **What will I get out of it?**
 - By participating you will be better able to identify areas where you are and are not prescribing according to national guidelines
 - Greater confidence that your prescribing practice is safe and in accordance to standards set by regulatory bodies such as the GDC, CQC and dental indemnifiers.
 - The opportunity to partake in an audit as required by GDC standards which is supported and funded.
 - By participating in the audit and you will obtain 2 hours verifiable CPD

- **What will happen if I drop out half way through?**
 - Unfortunately, we cannot remunerate participants who not complete two full audit cycles
 - You will not receive feedback on your prescribing activity

- **How long will the audit take?**
 - The first audit can be started from June 2017 and the deadline for completion of the second audit cycle will be end of December 2017.

- **Who do I contact if I need further information/ support?**
 - General enquiries regarding the audit:
dentalaudit.lase@hee.nhs.uk

 - Technical help with the audit tool:
office@dental-referrals.org