

Francis Report summary published on BDA website

Following the publication of report by Robert Francis QC into the care provided at Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust, the BDA has published an [initial summary](#) exploring the impact the recommendations could have on dentistry.

The [final report](#) was published on 6 February 2013. The report makes 290 recommendations which if implemented will have implications for dental practice and dental regulation.

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GDPC chair assures vigilance over new contract pilots

GDPC Chair John Milne has reassured representatives from prospective new pilot practices that the BDA will continue to monitor and assess the new contract pilots to ensure the result is sustainable for practices and patients in England.

Dr Milne was speaking at a pilot induction event in Birmingham on Tuesday 22 January for representatives from some of the 29 practices involved in stage two of the pilots, starting in April 2013.

The aim of the day was for the Department of Health to introduce the 29 practices on the shortlist to the new way of working. Representatives received presentations on the mechanics of the oral health assessment and the care pathway approach. They learnt about the remuneration models for the stage two pilots and heard a presentation from an existing pilot practice principal on how the system is working. Visit the [pilots page](#) for more information.

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Scottish Dental Practice Committee Executive meets with Chief Dental Officer

The Scottish Dental Practice Committee Executive and BDA staff met with the Chief Dental Officer (CDO) and her team on Wednesday 30 January 2013. Discussions took place covering tooth-specific data and a proposed new GP17 form, recovery of duplicate, deceased and embarked registration overpayments, and clinical audit and decontamination. Other items included the new combined practice inspections introduced on 1 January 2013, the review of GDS allowances and DDRB. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 12 June 2013.

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Research fund launches call for dental plastics research bids

The Shirley Glasstone Hughes (SGH) Trust Fund has launched its annual competition for primary care dental practitioners to win up to £200K of funding for research. The Fund is this year seeking applications for research projects that investigate the environmental impact of plastics in restorative dental materials. Bids for the funding must come from teams led by a primary care dentist. Applicants have until Monday 29 April to submit their research proposals.

The Fund has also launched new web pages at: www.bda.org/curiousabout. Dentists are invited to post questions and comments on four topics that have already been raised – patients' attitudes to the phasing out of dental amalgam, occupational risks associated with clinical dentistry, the effects of cognitive behavioural therapy on phobic or fearful patients, and the relationship between dental and systemic disease.

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Careers Day 2013

On Friday 8 February the popular Careers Day event organised by the BDA and UCL Eastman Dental Institute took place at Hotel Russell in London. The programme of lectures was delivered by 33 expert speakers all drawing from their own experiences to provide insights into the career options available.

The event began with a panel debate about the future of dentistry – contributors included Chief Dental Officer Barry Cockcroft, Elizabeth Jones, Postgraduate Dental Dean London and the BDA's Chief Executive, Peter Ward. For the first time the event incorporated interactive demonstrations of clinical techniques, and the day also included a CV clinic, sponsored by Philips, which offered delegates the opportunity to get one-on-one advice from the speakers.

The event attracted 210 delegates including foundation dentists, students, young dentists and dentists from overseas studying for their Overseas Registration Exam.

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Ten weeks of bookings remaining for London 2013

It is now 11 weeks since registration opened and 10 to go until the 2013 British Dental Conference and Exhibition. There are now 2,396 people registered to attend, an increase of 341 compared to this point last year. For further information visit the [conference website](#).

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Training essentials update

Two Training essentials courses took place on Friday 8 February, both at BDA London. *Law, ethics and record keeping* was delivered by BDA experts along with Jane Merivale, Dento-Legal Adviser, Dental Protection, and provided 38 delegates with an update on current legal and ethical issues facing dentistry. The event was run in association with Dental Protection, who also had an exhibition stand on the day. Twenty attendees participated in the *Business planning and financial management for practice owners and managers* course which was delivered by Andy McDougall from Spot on Business Planning.

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