



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béal,
Áras Phlásóg na Rós Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,
An Pháirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta, Caladh an Treoigh, Luimneach
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21 May 2024

**Deputy Roisin Shortall
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2**

PQ 20722/24: To ask the Minister for Health to outline the rates for each treatments under the dental treatment service scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Shortall,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

The Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS) provides access for medical card holders to dental examination and treatments through a contracted care arrangement with independent dentists. The scheme is available to current medical card holders over 16 years of age, who may access care from any of the Dentists on the DTSS list. This list is available at local HSE Dental clinics and online at HSE Primary Care Reimbursement Service (PCRS) Online Services.

On 1st May 2022 a number of changes and fee adjustments were introduced in the DTSS to support the scheme, and these are detailed in Appendix 1. These included an expansion in the definition of the Examination item with a corresponding fee increase and reintroduction of Scale and Polish. There were also increases of 40-60% in fees paid to contractors for most treatment items including restorations, routine extractions and dentures. On foot of these measures, the number of patients accessing care each month and the numbers of treatments being provided under the DTSS have increased since May 2022.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

**Anne O'Neill
Assistant National Director, Oral Health**

APPENDIX ONE: CHANGES INTRODUCED May 2022 DTSS Treatments

Item	Approved change	Previous Fee	New Fee
A1 Oral Examination	Expand definition to include all necessary radiographs and advice etc. Item A1 would encompass Item B4, Extra-Oral Radiographs (Increase in fee from €33 to €40)	€33.00	€40.00
A2 Prophylaxis	A2 treatment reintroduced for all eligible patients without need of prior approval. Fee based on DTBS fee (€42) with no patient co-payment.	€31.00	€42.00
A3A/A3C Restorations	Increase in fee No change in limit of 2 fillings per calendar year, and facilitates introduction of amalgam alternatives for treatment of posterior teeth	A3A (Amalgam) €50.06 A3C (Composite) €51.88	A3A (Amalgam) €65.00 A3C (Composite) €80.00
A4 Exodontics	Increase in A4 extraction fee to €60	€39.50	€60.00
A5	No Change		
A6 Miscellaneous	Reintroduce "Dressing" Suspended Since 28/04/10 Reduce "Prescription" fee by 50%	€22.65 (currently suspended) €22.65	€22.65 (no fee change) €11.32
A7	No Change		
A8 Denture Repairs	Increase in A8 Fee by 40%	1 st Repair €47.86 Each Sub. Item €15.34 Max €78.54	1st Repair €67.00 Each Sub. Item €21.48 Max €109.96
B1 Second Stage Endodontic Treatment	Increase fee by 50%, targeted at completion of endodontic treatment	€137.66	€206.49
B2	No Change		
B3	No Change		
B4	No Change		
B5 Dentures	Increase in B5 fee by 40%	Full upper & lower denture €478.74 Full upper denture only €326.22 Full lower denture only €326.22	Full upper & lower denture €670.24 Full upper denture only €456.71 Full lower denture only €456.71

		Full upper & lower denture reline €217.38	Full upper & lower denture reline €304.33
		Full upper reline only €130.59	Full upper reline only €182.83
		Full lower reline only €130.59	Full lower reline only €182.83
		Part upper denture €239.27	Part upper denture €334.98
		Part lower denture €239.27	Part lower denture €334.98