



Newsletter: April 2008

The new NHS contract is two years old now. I know from my discussions with many of you it has few friends within the profession and it has had a devastating impact on many laboratories. I was analysing some data from our laboratory as part of my evidence to the Health Select Committee and there was a clear reduction in NHS cobalt chrome work (down 88%) and NHS bridge work (down 72%).

I believe the NHS has largely abandoned older patients who have not had the benefit of fluoride and improved diets and needed much intervention dentistry as children. These patients, who need this work maintaining, have little choice (if they can afford it) but to choose private treatment options if they want to maintain their own teeth into old age.

In my last newsletter I mentioned some breaking news from the U.S.A of a patient suing her dentist for lead poisoning from a bridge made in China.

After tests carried out on behalf of a TV station on some other crowns not only was lead found at 210 ppm but also radioactive strontium and spores and other micro-biological materials. The issue of disclosure to both the dentist and the patient is now the big story. I am sure this story will find its way over here and patients will ask you question about the source of laboratory work.

All work from Phoenix is made on the premises with the exception of Procera and Zirconium copings which are made in Sweden and Germany respectively. We only used CE marked materials. We provide a 'certificate of conformity' with every piece of finished work. We are DAMAS registered which means we have a third party independent audit each year to ensure compliance with the Medical Device Directive.

We will be implementing a price increase next month, details to follow.

Many thanks

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "D. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

David Smith



REGISTERED MEMBER