



Newsletter: September 2008

I hope you have all had a good break over the holiday season, despite the weather in the U.K. This has been one of the quietest periods I can remember so I do hope there is plenty of work in the pipeline and the massive shortfall from NHS work and the impending economic gloom do not lead to a recession in dentistry.

The figures just released by the NHS statistics certainly highlight the scale of reduction in complex treatment *'The percentage of Band 3 CoTs in England including a crown fell from 47.8 per cent in 2003/04 to 35.3 per cent in 2007/08.'*

Other interesting statistics were in hours worked:

- *NHS dentists (full and part time) reported working an average of 37.0 hours per week in dentistry, of which 26.2 hours were devoted to the NHS. Overall, dentists reported 84.8 per cent of their time was spent on clinical work, while 15.2 per cent was spent on administrative work.*
- *Male dentists worked more weekly hours on average than female dentists - 39.5 hours compared to 32.6 hours. However, female dentists spent more of their time working in NHS dentistry 74.9 per cent compared to 68.9 per cent for male dentists.'*

Registration with the GDC is now compulsory for all Dental Technicians as well as all DCP groups. Information about our registered technicians is available with their registration numbers for those practices that require this. Only registered technicians or students on a recognised course undertake the manufacture of dental appliances.

Like dentists we all now have to comply with CPD requirements over the next 5 years and I hope we can use this as an opportunity for all the team to learn together. We will be looking at putting on 'whole team CPD events' and will certainly encourage our staff to participate in any events that are available in the area.



REGISTERED MEMBER

Kind regards,

David Smith