

Guidance for Providers

Occlusal Appliances

NHS BSA have confirmed that for the provision of occlusal appliances, the patient records should detail:

1. Signs or symptoms and investigations carried out by the dentist to eliminate any other problems that may need addressing or which justifies the provision of an occlusal appliance
2. A record that the appliances had been fabricated, i.e. details of an impression taken by the dentist and lab docket prescribing the appliance to the technician
3. Fitting of the occlusal appliance by a dentist together with appropriate instructions and advice.
4. A record that the patient has been monitored and reviewed to ascertain tolerance and to manage any ongoing symptoms. If appliances are wearing through in a short period, consideration should be made for thicker acrylic appliances in these cases.

Orthodontic Retainers

The Orthodontic Managed Clinical Network have confirmed that contract holders with no orthodontic element within their contract should manage patients who request the repair or replacement of orthodontic retainers in the following way:

Either within the supervised retention period (up to 12 months after active treatment) or beyond the supervised retention period all patients should be referred back to the orthodontic contractor where treatment was provided or provide the repair or replacement of orthodontic retainers under private contract. All NHS orthodontic providers are contracted to provide supervision and maintenance of retention for at least 12 months after the completion of active treatment

NHS BSA have confirmed that there is no provision in NHS GDS Regulations to permit primary care dental practitioners with no orthodontic element within their contract to claim UDA activity for the repair/ replacement of Orthodontic retainers and they should only be provided under private contract.

Sports Mouthguards

NSA BSA have confirmed that there is no provision under NHS (Dental Charges) Regulations 2005 SCHEDULE 3 Regulation 4(3) and (4) for **sports guards**