

Subject: Dental Audits

Dr Ian Charles

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my concern at the process of auditing of dentists in regard to the CDDS scheme. I have heard the concerns of colleagues who have been involved in the auditing process and I believe the process medicare is taking is grossly unfair. Dentists are being asked to repay money for legitimate treatment on patients just for administrative oversights. I don't think medicare is fairly punishing Dentists for these minor oversights especially considering that overheads for a dental practice run at over 70% of gross income. Surely there should be a fixed nominal penalty for not complying with paperwork, as dental procedures were performed and at great cost to the Dentist aswell. The community has benifited greatly from the services rendered to patients and I believe it would be a great injustice for Dentists to repay money for these services just because they didn't adhere to administrative processes. I can't recall ever being warned of the penalties for non-compliance with administrative procedures. I ask that you will take this into consideration.

Kind regards
Dr Ian Charles