

SADA Professional Advisory Bulletin

- Clinical Bulletin - Medical scheme updates
- Legal Bulletin - Notice of Dental Assisting Examination

Circulation date: 25 August 2024

Dear SADA Member

CLINICAL

MEDICAL SCHEME UPDATES

As planning intensifies for the upcoming and much-awaited SADA Annual Congress 2024, we hope that you are registered and geared for an event filled with exciting and thought-provoking content, hands-on sessions and much more! We look forward to seeing you at Times Square in Pretoria at the end of August.

This month's clinical bulletin will highlight key medical schemes developments:

1. GEMS clinical protocols

GEMS has issued correspondence with regard to changes in the following clinical protocols effective 1 September 2024:

a) The use of clinical images (code 8121)

As of 1 September, 8121 will only be paid:

- As part of orthodontic treatment as per the guidelines for such images;
- On an exception basis for any other treatment once motivation is considered, more specifically for clinical diagnosis excluding routine consultation and oral health education.

b) Time protocol for periodontal screening (code 8176)

As of 1 September, the time rule for periodontal screening will be amended from one per beneficiary per six months to one per beneficiary per twelve months.

The above changes will be applicable on all options.

2. Profmed payment runs

Profmed has advised that, as of 1 August 2024, they will be moving to weekly payment runs. Members are advised to access their statements using the provider portal for reconciliation purposes. The provider portal may be accessed at <https://ppsha.co.za/providers/#provider-logins>.

3. Discovery change of policy.

As of September 2024, Discovery have made amendments to their identification and validation process as per POPIA requirements. Personnel within the practice who are required to make enquiries on behalf of the practice and obtain access to practice communication and claims statements are required to be linked to the practice. Discovery has issued a Practice Access Management form to providers that must be completed with the identity documents of all personnel that will require access to practice information. Once this form is acknowledged as received, providers are to register on the Discovery website to create a Discovery Digital ID.

Thereafter, Discovery will send a one-time PIN to registered personnel to validate their identity before access is granted every time they log in. No queries from unregistered personnel will be done telephonically or via email from September 2024.

Furthermore, we are pleased to inform members that the SADA DCalc practice profitability simulator is now available **free of charge** to all SADA members. This is a great opportunity for members to use the now simplified tool in order to calculate their own cost structures personal and custom to one's own practice. A user manual is available on the SADA website for ease of use.

Members may download the tool by following the steps below:

1. Log in to the SADA website using your username and password;
2. Click on Professional Resources > Clinical Resources > DCalc – download.
3. Kindly email clinical@sada.co.za for a product key that may be entered to unlock the tool.

Members are once again reminded that the access code provided will secure your licence against the IP address of the computer chosen for the download and it is therefore not transferable to any other computer.

LEGAL

NOTICE OF DENTAL ASSISTING EXAMINATION

The Professional Board for Dental Assisting Dental Therapy and Oral Hygiene on 2 August 2024 advise that two more National Board Examinations be conducted for the following category of practitioners only:

1. Dental Assisting practitioners who were registered under the Board Notice (grandfather clause) and still have a student number only, so that they will be able to Register as Dental Assistants once they pass the examination.
2. All Dental Assisting practitioners registered under the Board Notice (grandfather clause) but have been suspended from the Register or their registration has expired, so that they will be restored back to the Register once they pass the examination and pay the applicable penalty fees.

Please note: The examinations shall not apply to present unqualified and unregistered dental assistants whether experienced or not. It applies to those who previously registered and have a student number.

The examinations will be held on the following dates:

- Tuesday 5 November 2024 – Closing date for applications is 20 September 2024.
- Wednesday 25 March 2025 - Closing date for applications is 31 January 2025.

Qualifying practitioners are requested to complete form 324 and send it together with the proof of payment of R880.00 and a copy of ID to dohexams@hpcsa.co.za.

The examination guideline and application form are also attached for the candidates' ease of reference.

Yours in oral health

Dr Tinesha Parbhoo - Head Clinical Support

Punkaj Govan - Head Legal and Corporate

Board Exam Application Form

Board Exam Preparation Guide

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29 Aug	SASPIO PRE CONGRESS Program - SADA Dental & Oral Health Congress & Exhibition
30 Aug	2024 SADA Dental & Oral Health Congress and Exhibition
31 Aug	SADA CONGRESS - Awards & Graduand Gala Dinner - 31 Aug 2024



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