



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Seirbhís Aisíocaíochta Cúraim Phríomhúil
Plás J5
Lárionad Gnó na Páirce Thuaidh
Bealach Amach 5, M50
An Bóthar Thuaidh
Fionnghlas
Baile Átha Cliath 11
D11 PXT0

Health Service Executive
Primary Care Reimbursement Service
J5 Plaza
North Park Business Park
Exit 5, M50
North Road
Finglas
Dublin 11
D11 PXT0

Fón: (01) 864 7100
Facs: (01) 834 3589

Tel: (01) 864 7100
Fax: (01) 834 3589

Circular 002/18

15th January 2018

Dear Dentist,

The vast majority of DTSS claims are reasonable, valid and in compliance with the contractual definitions in place. However the Dental Inspectorate has recently identified a small number of cases in which invalid surgical extraction claims were submitted for payment when a Routine Extraction (A4) should have been claimed i.e. **Extraction of a Tooth under Local Anaesthetic – including removal of roots, and where necessary, suturing and control of primary bleeding.**

The definition of a surgical extraction, as outlined in the DTSS contract, is: **'Removal of tooth or root requiring surgical incision of overlapping soft tissue, elevation of flap and either removal of bone and tooth or sectioning and removal of tooth. Fee to include any necessary radiographs and visit required for post-operative care.'**

Claims submitted for payment should reflect the treatment provided to the patient which the HSE would expect to accord with current clinical practice, and fully comply with treatment definitions as set out under contract as well as being recorded within the clinical records. In this context you are requested to review your records and if you believe you have misinterpreted the definition or consider that you have submitted invalid claims please notify PCRS directly within 28 days from receipt of this letter i.e. 12th February 2018. Please address correspondence arising from this communication to Ms. Teresa Kennedy at the above address. Alternatively you can make contact by email to Teresa.kennedy2@hse.ie or by telephone 01 8647100 ext. 7543.

The HSE will not apply penalties or enter into the disciplinary process regarding such claims where a full voluntary disclosure of invalid claiming has been made and recoupment is agreed with the HSE, however the difference between a Surgical Extraction fee and Routine Extraction fee will be recoverable in each case.

PCRS will continue to monitor and review claims for surgical extractions submitted for payment. Claims which do not comply with the above definition will be considered in accordance with the D.T.S.S. Contract.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Anne Marie Hoey
Primary Care Reimbursement & Eligibility