No change, no work
People who refuse to look after their teeth by failing to brush properly or limit sugary drinks should be refused expensive dental treatment on the NHS, a government adviser has suggested. Prof Jimmy Steele, Head of School and Professor of Oral Health Services Research at the University of Leeds, said providing expensive treatments when patients will not improve their own dental hygiene are a ‘waste of personal and public money’. Crowns and root canal work should not be offered to patients who persist with bad habits after they have been warned their dental health is suffering. However, proposals to extend this to all ‘self-inflicted’ diseases and injuries have not gained universal support and Prof Steele is working on a review of the dentistry contract.

Flouride could cause emergency dentistry
A new study has suggested that infants who are given fluoridated water could be at greater risk of needing emergency dentistry in the future. The research, carried out by Stephen Levy and published in the Journal of the American Dental Association, showed that babies who were fed formula milk had a much greater chance of suffering from dental problems compared to infants who were fed only on cows milk or breast milk.

Disposable dental drill hits the market
GDPUK has launched a further new forum for dentists to discuss issues related to the CQC registration and on-going process, on the website http://www.gdpuk.com. The forum has been made possible by the sponsorship of Apolline Ltd, a company specialising in aiding dental practices with CQC registration and on-going compliance. The lead moderator of the new forum is Keith Hayes, well known on GDPUK, who is Clinical Director of Apolline Ltd. Their website is at http://www.apolline.uk.com/.