**Cann't Quite Complete**

Regulator admits to backlog in registration process

Dr. Thackery added: The strength of feeling within the profession at the failure of the CQC to perform in its purpose is growing significantly.

A CQC spokeswoman said: "Many providers may not receive their certificates or Notices of Decision by 1 April because their CRB checks are still being processed. It is a legal requirement for all providers to have a CRB disclosure in order to be registered. The CQC had hoped that PCTs would be able to provide evidence of these for most NHS providers, but this has not proved to be the case."

On 1 April, there will be some providers who are still in the final stages of registering. We would like to reassure any provider who has submitted a valid application to us, but has not received their NoDs or certificate, that we will consider them to be 'in process'.

Some dentists have been upset by this news, calling for the CQC to put back or even abandon its regulatory plans for practitioner until it is in a position to cope with the workload. One dentist, Dr Simon Thackeray, emailed CQC's Cynthia Flower to share his views on the situation, commenting: As an organisation you are quite obviously not ready for the registration of dentists. Given the tone of emails and communication received from yourselves previously, the penalties for our failure to meet the deadline set by the CQC/Government were nothing short of draconian.

According to the email, your organisation is not going to meet the deadline set. What draconian measures will fall upon the CQC, and you as its head given this admission?

Chair of the BDA’s Executive Committee, Dr Susie Sanderson, said: "CQC registration is a fiasco that seems to be in crisis after one crisis to another, spreading discontent, creating stress and distracting practitioners from patient care. It is disappointing, although sadly no longer surprising, that the process has now been pitched into a new crisis. CQCs acknowledgement of its shortcomings will do very little, if anything, to placate or reassure dentists. The organisation clearly needs time to focus on the problems it is facing and get the process on track."

“The dental profession in England is engaging constructively with the Government on major changes to contracts and commissioning to help it deliver improvements to patient care. It is important that positive approach is reciprocated. The Government has previously refused BDA calls to exempt dentists from CQC registration and even to delay the process, arguing that it is progressing well. That is clearly not the case. It is time for Government to take action to show that it understands the concerns and halt the development of a crisis of confidence among dentists.”

**Sweet tooth**

Scientists have discovered that taste cells have several addition sugar detectors on top of the previously known sweet receptor. This sweet receptor is the primary mechanism in recognising sugars such as glucose and sucrose and also artificial sweeteners, wafer and aspartame. However, according to senior author Robert F Margolskee, MD, PhD, a molecular neurobiologist, some aspects of sweet taste could not be explained by the primary receptor. “The taste system continues to amaze me at how smart it is and how it serves to integrate taste sensation with digestive processes,” Margolskee was quoted as saying. The study suggests that different sugar taste sensors have varied roles.

**Tobacco not displayed**

After much deliberation regarding the display of tobacco in shops it has now been parliamentary tobacco products will no longer be displayed in shops. The new legislation, which is better and more effective, the Government, will come into force for larger stores on April 6 2012 and on April 6 2015 for all other shops. According to a statement from the Department of Health only temporary displays in “certain circumstances” will be allowed, with the rules phased in to minimise the impact on businesses. With regards to plain packing for cigarettes and other tobacco products, the Government is keeping an “open mind” and is planning a consultation on different options before the end of this year.

**Frogs have teeth!**

According to new research, frogs have re-“evolved” lost bottom teeth after more than 200 million years. Tree-dwelling Gastrotheca guentheri are the only known frogs in the world with teeth on both their upper and lower jaw. The reappearance of these lower teeth after such a long time identifies a “loop” in previous theories in evolution and ultimately fuels debate about the permanent loss of complex traits in evolution. Commonly known as “mammalian frogs” the Gastrotheca genus carry have other unusual traits because they carry their eggs in pouches on their backs. Dr John Wiens led a team of scientists from Stony Brook University, New York to investigate this exceptional feature. Their findings are reported in the journal Evolution.

**Fake pharmaceuticals**

Bats target gangs involved in counterfeit medicine

**Love and leave you**

Dental Tribune looks at why patients leave you

**Safe or Sorry?**

David Hands and Neil Photay discuss nickel allergies

**Trek with a purpose**

Dental aids organise trip to North East India

**FEWER THAN ONE IN THREE PEOPLE HAVE MENTIONED BLEEDING GUMS TO THEIR DENTIST OR HYGIENIST**

**No special precautions**

**Side effects:**

Superficial discolouration of tongue, teeth and tooth-coloured restorations, usually reversible; transient taste disturbances and burning.

**Presentation:**

A colourless solution containing 0.2% w/v chlorhexidine digluconate.

**Indications:**

Plaque inhibition; gingivitis; For the treatment of gingivitis; to maintain good oral hygiene in those with a high risk of developing gingivitis; to treat periodontal disease; to maintain good oral hygiene in those with a high risk of developing periodontal disease.

**Dosage & Administration:**

Adults and children 12 years and over: Rinse with 10ml.

**Legal category:**

Pregnancy

**Product Information:** Corsodyl Mint Mouthwash.

**Keep out of eyes and ears, do not swallow.**

**Precautions:**

Due to the alcohol content (7%) ingestion of large amounts by children requires medical attention.

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