

# HELP US TO HELP YOU

Please give a detailed account of where one of your patients has been affected due to the lack of an appropriate prescription.

Thank you for completing this form, if you would like to contribute more or have any questions, please e-mail [prescribing@bsdht.org.uk](mailto:prescribing@bsdht.org.uk) or visit BSDHT or BADT websites.

<b>Setting:</b>	Working as a hygienist at a dental practice.
<b>Medicine/Group of medicines:</b>	Local anaesthetic
<b>Description of case:</b>	
A patient came in for their regular maintenance hygiene appointment. She advised me that she had to be anaesthetised for this treatment. This was her first appointment with me and she presented with localised areas of aggressive periodontitis with pockets of 6 mm which would require LA.	
<b>Current practice &amp; drawbacks associated with working under prescription and/or a PGD:</b>	
There was no LA prescription and her dentist was not there to prescribe one. I asked another dentist to assess the patient for this but they refused as the patient was not one they had seen them before and were therefore unfamiliar with them.	
<b>What was the patients' experience?</b>	
<p>The patient got very upset. She could not understand why the last time she had this treatment carried out it was with LA that I could now not provide. (on further investigation I found out that the previous treatment had been undertaken by a dentist. Thus no LA prescription required. )</p> <p>The whole situation was very upsetting for the patient as she was very nervous and anxious about this treatment. As a compromise I removed supragingival calculus (free of charge to the patient but at a cost to the practice) and rescheduled another appointment for the treatment required with a prescription for LA use.</p> <p>I found this wasted time for all involved, cost the practice money and most importantly further annoyed an already nervous patient to the extent that I am not sure she will return.</p>	

**Practice Type** (please enter 'X' in relevant box below):

∞ Fully Private	
∞ Fully NHS	
∞ Mixed Practice	X

