

## BDJ Team publishes mental health and wellbeing themed issue

In November, the *BDJ*'s fellow publication *BDJ Team* published its second themed issue of the year, focused on mental health and wellbeing (the September issue focused on dental hygienists and therapists).

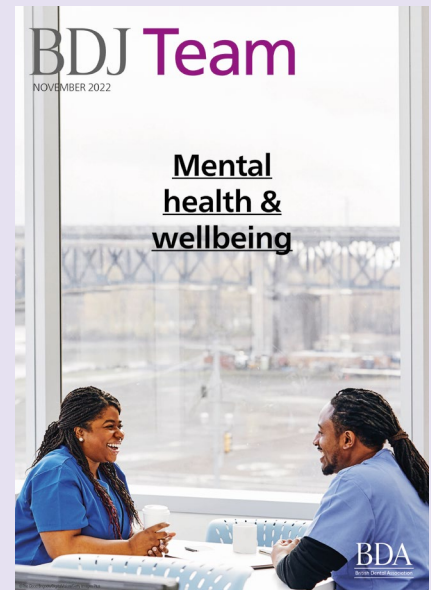
The mental health and wellbeing issue boasts four original papers from colleagues at Peninsula Dental School, University of Plymouth:

1. Using the Mental Health Wellness Framework in dental practice
2. An individual-level approach to stress management in dentistry
3. Wellbeing for dental professionals – some practical tips
4. The importance of developing a growth mindset for the dental team.

Gaining wide attention in social media circles is a personal account from dental therapist and lecturer Emily Banks from Cardiff Dental School, who describes her experiences with topical steroid addiction and withdrawal: 'I went through a crippling deterioration in my mental health' (<https://go.nature.com/3U6HTYh>).

Caroline Holland explores the role of dental teams in the management of children with rare medical conditions, highlighting a new leaflet published on behalf of the Diamond-Blackfan Anaemia (DBA) charity, in 'Genetic conditions and the dental team' (<https://go.nature.com/3VpTina>).

*BDJ Team* is available online to all dental professionals. For the current issue, visit <https://www.nature.com/bdjteam/volumes/9/issues/10>.



## UK dental professional bodies commit to preventing antimicrobial resistance

'Preventing antimicrobial resistance together' was the theme of World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) 2022. Held annually from 18–24 November, WAAW is led by the World Health Organisation (WHO), in partnership this year with the World Organisation for Animal Health, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the UN Environment Programme.

The WHO has declared antimicrobial resistance (AMR) as one of the top ten global public health threats facing humanity, requiring urgent multisectoral action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Members of the wider oral healthcare community, including decision makers and those with influence in governmental, non-governmental, academic and regulatory domains, must therefore consider their impact on AMR as a critical part of the sustainability agenda.

During WAAW 2022, the College of General Dentistry, Association of Clinical Oral Microbiologists and Faculty of Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, highlighted the importance of

working together to tackle AMR, supported by the Association of Dental Hospitals, British Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, British Association of Dental Nurses, British Association of Dental Therapists, British Association of Oral Surgeons, British Association of Private Dentistry, British Dental Association, British Endodontic Society, British and Irish Society of Oral Medicine, British Society of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy, British Society of Dental Hygiene and Therapy, British Society of Periodontology and Implant Dentistry, the Faculty of Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow and the Faculty of Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

These dental professional bodies are reminding all those who deliver or support the delivery of oral healthcare that they have a role to play; working together, dental teams can identify service improvements and help keep antimicrobials working by auditing their prescribing practices, and the wider oral health community can reduce the need for prescribing of antibiotics by ensuring access

to the right oral healthcare, at the right time and in the right place.

The organisations are encouraging dental teams to use a number of free resources to ensure that antimicrobials are used only when strictly necessary and appropriate:

- Guidelines for antimicrobial prescribing in dentistry:
  - <https://cgdent.uk/standards-guidance>
  - <https://www.sdcep.org.uk/published-guidance/drug-prescribing/>
  - <https://bnf.nice.org.uk>
- CPD for prescribers: <https://www.baos.org.uk/elearning/>
- Free course for the wider team: <http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/tackling-antibiotic-resistance-dentists>.

They are also highlighting the Dental Antimicrobial Stewardship Toolkit (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/dental-antimicrobial-stewardship-toolkit>), which provides links to a range of guidance, training, audit and patient-facing resources (including those above) which will be useful for all members of the dental team, including but not limited to prescribers.