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"Although growth is forecast to slow over the next five years, the private sector is anticipated to have greater growth opportunities than NHS dentistry since the NHS faces a considerable challenge in providing high quality healthcare amid rapid demographic changes and constrained public spending."

- Lewis Cone, Senior B2B Analyst

# This report looks at the following areas:

- NHS dentist accessibility problems adding to funding pressures that put future provision in doubt
- Threat of additional tax payments and stagnating salaries could stall market growth

Dental services have been available throughout the NHS since its creation in 1948. However, most dentists are not employed by the NHS but operate as independent contractors, choosing where to locate their premises and how much, if any, NHS treatment to provide.

NHS dental services are provided in primary care and community settings, and in hospitals for more specialised care. NHS England directly commissions all dental services for the NHS and there are over a million patient contacts with NHS dental services each week.

The total market for UK dental care is projected to reach a value of £10 billion by the end of 2019. The market has been boosted by consistent demand for private dental services as successive increases to NHS dentistry patient charges have closed the gap between the two types of service provision, while cosmetic procedures not available on the NHS are more in-demand.

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**DID YOU KNOW?** 

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market



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#### **Market Drivers**

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