

Maxillo-Facial and Orthodontics

Introduction

The Covid pandemic has had a significant impact on the NHS ability to provide routine elective services. We recognise that patients are waiting longer than we would all like and it is not always possible to identify when treatment will take place. This document provides you with information and guidance to support you while waiting to attend the hospital.

Guidance for Patients

Our Maxillo-Facial treatments include:

- Extraction/surgical removal of impacted wisdom teeth
- Complex extractions/surgical removal of teeth under local anaesthetic/intravenous sedation/general anaesthetic
- Extraction of teeth for medically compromised patients
- Exposure of impacted teeth for orthodontic purposes
- Apicectomies
- Biopsies
- Diagnosis of soft tissue pathology of the head and neck
- Neck lump MDT clinics
- Orthognathic surgery/Orthodontics MDT clinics
- Botox injections for temporomandibular joint dysfunction

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Our Orthodontics treatments include:

Orthodontics (Ortho meaning straight and dontics meaning teeth) is a specialised branch of dentistry that is concerned with straightening irregular teeth and jaws

- Fixed Orthodontic Appliances
- Functional Orthodontic Appliances
- Functional Appliances
- Removable Appliances
- Corrective Jaw Surgery
- Retainers
- Impacted tooth removal
- Orthodontic Mini-screw / temporary Anchorage device

What to bring with you to your appointment:

- Your appointment card or letter
- An up-to-date list of any medication you are currently taking.
- Any study models, x-rays or correspondence that may have been given to you by your dentist or doctor.
- Parent or Guardian if under sixteen.
- Completed medical history form (If you receive one in the post)

Covid-19

A recent Covid-19 infection increases your risk of lung complications or death if you have an operation under general anaesthetic. This risk reduces the longer it is since the infection. After 7 weeks the risk is no higher than someone who has not had Covid-19. However, if you still have the symptoms the risk remains high. The risk also depends on your age, overall health and the type of surgery you are having.

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You must follow instructions to self-isolate and take a Covid-19 test before your operation. If you have had Covid-19 up to 7 weeks before the operation you should discuss the risks and benefits of delaying it with your surgeon.

What should I do if my health is deteriorating?

Urgent Health Advice

For urgent health advice about physical or mental health, when it's not an emergency, please call 111 from any landline or mobile phone. You can also visit www.nhs.uk. The NHS 111 service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Life Threatening Emergencies

For something life threatening – severe bleeding, breathing difficulties or chest pains – please dial 999.

GP surgeries are still open

If you experience an increase in pain or deterioration of your symptoms, you should in the first instance contact your General Practitioner for review and advice.

GP surgeries are still open and are working differently to how they did before the COVID-19 pandemic. GP practices continue to make best use of telephone, online and video consultations. Face-to-face appointments are still being given to those who need it.

When you phone or use an online form to contact your GP surgery to make an appointment, you will be asked some questions which are designed to help staff guide you to the most appropriate clinical person to help you with your condition. This could be a nurse, clinical pharmacist, physician's associate, GP or paramedic.

A list of GP practices with relevant contact details are available on the following website:

[Find a GP - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

Contact Details

Warrington 01925 662436

Halton 01928 753225

Please note we will not give explicit clinical advice via telephone/email until you have been reviewed within clinic by a consultant first.

[Information for the public | Orthodontics Service – Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals](#)

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The contents of this information have been reviewed and approved by the Clinical Governance Meeting, Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals

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Helpful Links

To find out more about the treatments offered and information on how to achieve a good standard of oral health please refer to our website on: <https://whh.nhs.uk/orthodontics>

Further Help

NHS Choices: www.nhs.uk/conditions

[British Orthodontic Society > BOS Homepage > Your Jaw Surgery](#)