Guidance on making Oral Surgery Referrals to General Dental Practitioners

Referral to Cambridgeshire Community Services (CCS) Oral Surgery Service and Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Addenbrooke’s Hospital.

CCS Dental Service and Addenbrooke’s Hospital are working together to ensure that patients needing oral surgical procedures are seen in the most appropriate setting.

Mr. Prem Nair, Specialist Oral Surgeon, is working in both primary and secondary care and will be leading a clinical oral surgery network across Cambridgeshire.

Mr Prem Nair is based at Brookfields Dental Clinic, Cambridge and is supported by Dr. Melanie Ando DwSI Oral Surgery at Hinchingbrooke Treatment Centre in Huntingdon. Mr. Julian Fraser, (Assoc Specialist Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery) is providing some oral surgery at our Wisbech Clinic.

Mr. Nair has the full support of the Maxillofacial Consultants from Addenbrooke’s Hospital; Mr. David Adlam, Mr. Malcolm Cameron and Mr. Mark Thompson. In order to assist your local practice based management, we have enclosed an evidence-based information supplement.

Essential Information for each referral
- The correct name and address
- Daytime telephone number
- Date of birth
- Name of the GP
- Name of the referring practitioner
- The reason for the referral
- The date of the referral
- Appropriate radiographs should be included

Emergency referrals

Emergency referrals are those where an immediate risk to the patient’s health exists. Please telephone Addenbrooke’s Hospital on 01223 245151 and speak to on call SHO, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Urgent referrals

Suspected malignancy
Please refer these patients on a Fast Track Proforma to Addenbrooke’s Hospital. These referrals are best faxed to 01223 216708 but can be sent by post to: Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Addenbrooke’s Hospital, Cambridge, CB2 0QQ.

Urgent Maxillofacial surgery and facial trauma referrals
Please refer these patients to Addenbrooke’s Hospital at the address/fax above.

Failed extraction where the patient is in pain
Please fax referral to Brookfields on 01223 723101. Telephone guidance can be sought by telephoning 01223 723093 and requesting oral surgical advice.
Routine referrals

Oral Surgery Referrals
All non-emergency oral surgery referrals should be sent to CCS Oral Surgery Service based at Brookfield’s Health Centre, Seymour Street, Cambridge, CB1 3DQ or by fax on 01223 723101.

CCS Oral Surgery Service will provide the following oral surgical procedures
- Removal of symptomatic wisdom teeth (NICE Guidelines)
- Symptomatic complex retained roots
- Unsuccessful attempted extractions
- Failed good quality endodontic treatment with periapical pathology and the need for surgical endodontic treatment. These teeth must have adequate root fillings, good bone support, good coronal seal, satisfactory periodontal status and oral health. (RCS, England Guidelines)
- Labial or lingual frenectomies
- Closure of persistent oro - antral communication
- Surgical treatment for unstable warfaranised patients

The CCS Oral Surgery Service will provide treatment under local anaesthesia. We will often offer treatment to patients at their first appointment depending on the appropriateness of referrals and the complexity of the procedure. It is essential that all referrals are comprehensive and include relevant radiographs of an acceptable diagnostic standard.

The following patients should not be referred to CCS Oral Surgery Service:
- Borderline eligibility referrals without accompanying radiographs
- Simple extractions of teeth for healthy individuals
- Dental clearances involving multiple, straightforward extraction of carious/periodontally involved teeth.

The following patients will also be accepted at CCS Oral Surgery Service working with the Community Dental Service
- Patients with multiple medical problems and on medication.
- Patients with severe learning disabilities and special needs
- Patients with psychiatric problems

All referrals will be triaged by Mr. Nair who will determine where patients are most appropriately treated.

The Dept. of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Addenbrooke’s Hospital will provide the following Maxillofacial Surgical treatments
- Suspected malignancy of the face, mouth and jaws
- Soft tissue lesions, oral lesions, biopsies and oral medicine cases
- TMJ dysfunction cases and facial pain
- Overwhelming maxillofacial infections
- Patients with complicated medical conditions (Haemophilia, low platelets etc)
- Salivary gland diseases
- Facial deformity and facial reconstruction
- Facial injury and facial bone fractures
- Dento alveolar fractures
- Cleft lip/palate management

CCS Oral Surgery Service,
Brookfields Dental Clinic,
Seymour Street,
Cambridge, CB1 3DQ

Cambridgeshire Community Services is responsible for providing a range of NHS and social care services in the Cambridgeshire area, commissioned by and accountable to Cambridgeshire Primary Care Trust