

Acceptance Criteria

Department of Restorative Dentistry

We are a major teaching hospital which aims to provide the highest quality care, as well as providing teaching for undergraduate dental students and postgraduate trainees. The following notes are designed as a guide for practitioners considering referring patients to us.

Most cases referred will be seen for an assessment (consultation) only with a treatment plan drafted and sent back to the referring dentist. Patients accepted for treatment will be on a shared care basis with discharge back to the dentist when the agreed items of treatment have been completed.

Due to the high volume of referrals received for endodontics, we are unable to accept patients for this treatment from outside the greater London area **except** in the following high priority cases:

- Patients who have or have in the past had oral cancer
- Patients with congenital dental abnormalities eg hypodontia, cleft lip & palate and amelogenesis imperfecta
- Medically compromised patients
- Patients who have suffered orofacial trauma

On occasions we have the capacity to accept patients suitable for training of undergraduate and postgraduate students.

The following information is a guide on the type of dental problems that may be accepted for specialist treatment at the Dental Institute.

Endodontic

- Advice only on complex endodontic problems.
- Endodontic complications of trauma, for example, resorption.
- Single/multiple root canals with curvature $>40^\circ$.
- Single/multiple root canals that are NOT considered negotiable from radiographic and clinical evidence through their entire length.
- Periradicular surgery when conventional endodontics has been previously tried and failed.
- Teeth with perforations or pathological resorption.
- Root canal treatment or retreatment of second molar teeth only if it is a strategic abutment.

Please note:

1. We have limited capacity for the elective retreatment of asymptomatic teeth prior to crown placement/replacement.
2. Only functional and restorable teeth which have good periodontal support will be considered.
3. We will not accept patients onto the waiting list until all primary disease has been managed.
4. We do not offer sedation for the management of endodontic problems treated within the department.
5. Concessions will be made for patients on bisphosphonates or who have undergone radiotherapy to the jaws. In situations when crowns or bridges are dismantled, patients may be referred back to the referring dentist for replacement restorations.

Prosthodontics

We have a limited prosthodontic service at the King's College Hospital site, and only those patients falling within the priority cases listed above will be accepted for treatment.

We do not accept patients for treatment for failing crown and bridgework. We will, however, provide a comprehensive treatment plan for both fixed and removable prosthodontic cases.

Periodontology

- Advanced periodontitis in patients under 40 years of age
- Aggressive early onset periodontitis
- Complex mucogingival problems
- Severe localised gingival recession
- Gingival enlargement
- Persistent deep pocketing, if increasing, despite good oral hygiene and debridement under local anaesthesia
- Patients where their medical condition/medication may be contributing to the problem
- Patients who may benefit from crown lengthening prior to restorative treatment
- Patients who are being considered for complex orthodontic/orthognathic surgery where periodontal health is in doubt

Implants

The criteria for implant placement on the NHS are very strict. The following are considered high priority for implant treatment on the NHS:

- Patients who have suffered oro-facial trauma with a well-cared for mouth.
- Patients who have or have had oro-facial cancer.

- Patients suffering from congenital defects such as hypodontia and cleft palate (excluding missing lateral incisors where resin bonded bridges will always be the first treatment of choice).

Patients referred for implant treatment must have good oral hygiene, no active periodontal disease, a well cared for mouth and must not smoke.

We are unable to accept patients who have failing dental implants placed abroad or in the private sector. Nor are we able to complete implant treatment that has been started elsewhere. If, however, treatment has been started in patients who would have fulfilled our criteria, then these cases will be given special consideration.

We are unable to accept patients for treatment on financial grounds alone and acceptance is based on clinical need with limited access for patients outside the Greater London area.

We do not provide any general restorative treatments under general anaesthetic.