



# Having general anaesthetic for dental treatment

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## What is general anaesthetic?

- We will give you an injection that will make you fall asleep so that we can do your dental treatment.





## Before your appointment...



On the day of your surgery you will have to stop eating 6 hours before your surgery appointment time.



On the day of your surgery you will have to stop drinking water 2 hours before your surgery appointment time.



You may take your medicines at the normal time unless the dentist tells you otherwise.





Tell the dentist if you feel ill.



Please wear flat shoes and loose, comfortable clothes to the appointment.



Tell the dentist if you are having a baby or trying for a baby.





## Before your appointment...

You must bring someone with you who is over 18 years old.

They must:

- Come with you to the appointment
- Wait while you have the treatment
- Take you home
- Stay with you the rest of the day
- Stay with you for the night
- If you do not have someone with you we will not be able to treat you



- This is because if you have this treatment you can't be left on your own for 24 hours





## Before your appointment...



**Do not** drink alcohol 24 hours before the appointment.



**Do not** take recreational drugs 48 hours before the appointment, including cannabis (weed).

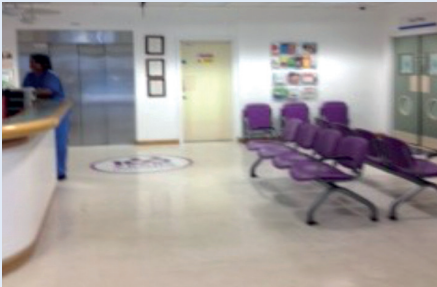


**Do not** wear nail varnish or false nails.

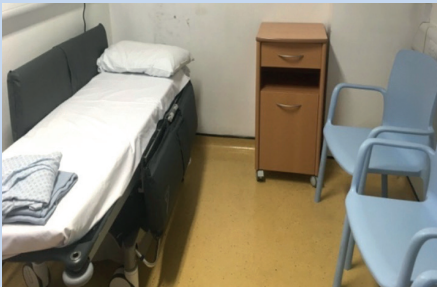




## During your appointment...



You will be asked to sit in the waiting room.



A nurse will then take you to a room on the ward.



The nurse will put a band on your arm to take your blood pressure and put a clip on your finger to measure your breathing.





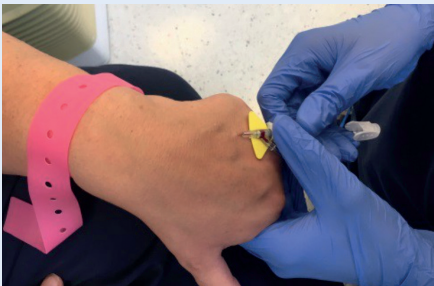
If you are nervous you may be given a drink with medicine (a sedative) to help you relax.



The nurse will take you to the anaesthetic room and ask you to lie on a bed. You will see this equipment.

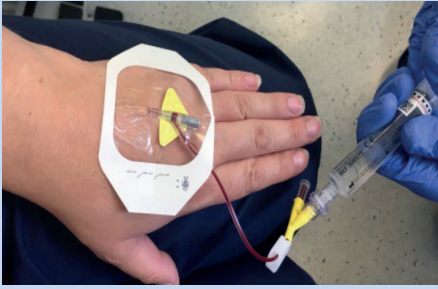


The doctor will need to look at the veins in your hand, so the nurse will hold your wrist.



The doctor will put a small plastic tube with a needle in the back of your hand.





The liquid medicine (general anaesthetic drug) will be given through the plastic tube to make you sleepy.



You may choose to go to sleep by having a mask over your nose.



When you are asleep the dentist will look in your mouth and do your treatment.



You will be asked to stay in the hospital for about one to six hours until the doctor says you are okay to go home.





## After your appointment...



Rest for the remainder of the day.



Take your medicines at the normal time unless the dentist tells you otherwise.



## After your appointment...



**Do not** drive until the next day.



**Do not** ride a bike until the next day.



**Do not** go back to work until the next day.





**Do not** drink alcohol for the rest of the day.



**Do not** take recreational drugs for the rest of the day, including cannabis (weed).



**Do not** look after babies, children or adults who need support.



**Do not** sign any important documents.

## Sharing your information

We have teamed up with Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals in a partnership known as King's Health Partners Academic Health Sciences Centre. We are working together to give our patients the best possible care, so you might find we invite you for appointments at Guy's or St Thomas'. To make sure everyone you meet always has the most up-to-date information about your health, we may share information about you between the hospitals.

## Care provided by students

We provide clinical training where our students get practical experience by treating patients. Please tell your doctor or nurse if you do not want students to be involved in your care. Your treatment will not be affected by your decision.

## PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) is a service that offers support, information and assistance to patients, relatives and visitors. They can also provide help and advice if you have a concern or complaint that staff have not been able to resolve for you. They can also pass on praise or thanks to our teams. The PALS office is located on the ground floor of the Hambleton Wing, near the main entrance on Bessemer Road - staff will be happy to direct you.

PALS at King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London SE5 9RS

Tel: **020 3299 3601**

Email: **[kch-tr.palsdh@nhs.net](mailto:kch-tr.palsdh@nhs.net)**

**If you would like the information in this leaflet in a different language or format, please contact our Communications and Interpreting telephone line on 020 3299 4826 or email [kch-tr.accessibility@nhs.net](mailto:kch-tr.accessibility@nhs.net)**