

Dear Colleagues

### **Patients for the Exodontia Teaching Clinic at Aberdeen Dental Hospital**

The Exodontia Teaching Clinic at Aberdeen Dental Hospital is currently short of patients that require extractions. We would be extremely grateful if you could consider whether any patients you see, may be suitable for this clinic.

We would be delighted to treat any patients...

- (1) requiring simple or surgical extraction of any teeth or roots, except wisdom teeth.
- (2) willing to be treated by dental students under the supervision of a Consultant Oral Surgeon.
- (3) without a medical history that requires multi-disciplinary secondary care input (e.g. haemophilia, oncology).
- (4) able to spare 60 - 90 minutes to attend appointments at the Aberdeen Dental Hospital (Cornhill Rd, AB25 2ZR).

All treatment is free of charge and all patients will be discharged back to the continuing care of their primary care general dental practitioner following the completion of their extractions. We can currently offer patients an appointment within a week and have capacity to treat approximately 20 patients a week (during term times i.e. excluding July, August and December).

Direct referrals for specific extractions (meeting all four of the above criteria) to be carried out on the Exodontia Teaching Clinic can be made via the hyperlink available on the dental referral pathway on SCI Gateway.

Further information is available at: [www.abdn.ac.uk/dental/treatment](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/dental/treatment) and in the attached FAQ document.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if you require any further information or have any thoughts on how we can improve our service.

Many Thanks

Anand

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Will my patient be seen quicker if I refer simultaneously to both the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery secondary care pathway and the Exodontia Teaching Clinic on SCI Gateway?**

No - Unfortunately this is more likely to cause delays as one of these referrals will definitely be rejected because the acceptance criteria for the two services are mutually exclusive. If you or your patient were then to attempt to contact the service it may appear that the referral has been rejected (even if a second referral was subsequently accepted) which would cause confusion and potential delay to service provision for your patient.

**My patient has a simple wisdom tooth that requires extraction / benign mucosal lesion that needs biopsy / desperate wish to help train young dentists, can I send them to the Exodontia Teaching Clinic?**

No - The Exodontia Teaching Clinic has a very specific objective, which is to allow our students to meet the General Dental Council defined outcomes for a 'safe beginner' at BDS level. The referral criteria reflect these requirements and therefore only cases matching those specific criteria can be accepted.

**My patient is not eligible for free NHS dentistry so will they still have to pay if treated on the Exodontia Teaching Clinic?**

No – All treatment on the Exodontia Teaching Clinic is free at the point of delivery for all patients.

**When I attempted to extract a tooth it unfortunately turned out to be more complex than initially anticipated and a root was left in situ. Can this be referred to the Exodontia Teaching Clinic?**

Yes – This would meet the referral criteria of a 'surgical extraction' so would be accepted on the Exodontia Teaching Clinic as long as the three other criteria were also met e.g. 'willing to be treated by dental students', 'without a medical history that requires multi-disciplinary secondary care input', 'able to spare 60 - 90 minutes to attend appointments at the Aberdeen Dental Hospital'

**When I attempted to extract a tooth it unfortunately turned out to be more complex than initially anticipated and a root was lost in the maxillary antrum. Can this be referred to the Exodontia Teaching Clinic?**

No – Neither oro-antral-communication closure nor root retrieval from the maxillary antrum would meet the criteria for acceptance on the Exodontia Teaching Clinic.

**My patient is fit and healthy and has a simple extraction that would be ideal for a dental student's level of experience. They wish to be treated in the hospital by a specialist. My referral to the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery service has been rejected so can I refer to the Exodontia Teaching Clinic?**

No – For acceptance to the Exodontia Teaching Clinic all four of its referral criteria must be met. If a patient is not willing to be treated by a student they will not be suitable for the Exodontia Teaching Clinic and will be sent back to the referring clinician.

**I have previously referred a patient to the Exodontia Teaching Clinic and their extraction was completed successfully. They now need another extraction so can they be referred again?**

Yes – As long the current extraction(s) meet the Exodontia Teaching Clinic referral criteria they will be accepted for treatment again.

**My patient doesn't want to be without a tooth so they will need an immediate replacement denture. Will this be provided at the Exodontia Teaching Clinic?**

No – The remit of the Exodontia Teaching Clinic is strictly limited to extractions so we cannot fabricate or fit any immediate replacement prosthesis. If a patient brings along an immediate replacement denture we will not be able to provide a fitting service at time of extraction as we cannot arrange a review appointment within 24-48 hours to make any necessary adjustments. If tooth replacement is necessary we would ask the referring practitioner to arrange to see the patient as soon as possible after the extraction is completed to fit the prosthesis and provide any necessary aftercare.

**I don't have an up-to-date radiograph of the tooth that needs extraction. Will my referral to Exodontia Teaching Clinic be accepted?**

No – Without an appropriate radiograph it would be impossible to adequately triage a referral so these would automatically be rejected.

**Can I refer to the Exodontia Teaching Clinic for a second opinion on a tooth?**

No – The remit of the Exodontia Teaching Clinic is strictly limited to extractions that meet the four referral criteria so we cannot accept any cases outside these criteria.

**Where can I find general information on the referral criteria for student teaching clinics?**

<https://www.hi-netgrampian.scot.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Student-Teaching-referral-guidance.pdf>

**The SCI Gateway referral process is a little confusing. Are there any more details on how to use it?**

Yes – please see the attached screen shot outlining how to find the Dental Student Treatment protocol.

Further support is available from the Dental Facilitators and they can be contacted on [gram.dentfacilitators@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.dentfacilitators@nhs.scot)

SCI Gateway - Live - New Referral x

https://www.scigw.scot.nhs.uk/Live/ChooseProtocol.aspx?gpasaction=referral

NHSG Managed Favorites

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Guidance  
Waiting Times  
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