

Children's Oral Surgery Information for Parents and Carers

**Children's Outpatient Department
Women & Children Services**

This leaflet has been designed to give you important information and to answer some common queries you may have.



Information for parents and carers

Introduction

Children undergo oral surgery for a number of reasons, including:

- removal of decayed teeth
- to uncover an impacted tooth
- removal of extra teeth, and
- as part of orthodontic work

This information leaflet will provide your child with the information they need to prepare them for coming into hospital for dental surgery. It will assist you to care for your child once they have been discharged.

Your child's dental surgery should be a day case; your child will be admitted to the children's ward. Your child should expect to be in hospital for a morning or an afternoon depending upon the schedule of the surgery.

It is important that you ask questions, especially if you are unsure of anything that is being done.

What happens before and after arrival on the Children's Ward?

Please make sure that your child has not had anything to eat or drink in accordance with the fasting instructions on your appointment letter.

Please arrange your own transport to and from hospital. You should not use public transport to go home after the operation.

You should arrive on the children's ward at the time stated on your letter.

On arrival the nurse will:

- check personal details
- measure and record your child's observations
- apply local anaesthetic cream to the back of your son / daughter's hands – Magic Cream

Your child will need to change into a hospital gown.

Your child will be seen by an anaesthetist and consented for the anaesthetic.

Your child will also be seen by the oral surgeon. He will ask you or someone with parental responsibility to sign a consent form for the surgery.

A hospital play specialist may also talk to your child and bring activities for them to do. This will help to reduce any anxiety your child may have.

Procedure and Anaesthetic

Your child will be escorted to the theatre waiting area. The theatre nurse will check to ensure your child is fasted, consented and has no complicating medical problems. Following this your



Information for parents and carers

child will be taken to the anaesthetic room where they anaesthetised, a parent can accompany them.

Parents usually return to the Children's ward to wait during the surgery.

After the surgery your child will be taken to the recovery room to wake from the anaesthetic.

It is possible your child will have stitches inside their mouth from the surgery – the surgeon will have explained this to you.

Benefits

It has been agreed with your child's oral surgeon that surgery is needed. This is done to maintain or improve your child's oral health, teeth and gums and to prevent complications in the future.

Risks

There are a number of risks with any surgical procedure.

Anaesthetic: nausea and vomiting are common side effects of anaesthetic, in up to 3:10 children. Sore throat is also common. Very rare complication of anaesthetic included allergy 1:10 000.

Bleeding: can occur in the mouth following the surgery. This should be minimal and not cause any problem.

Infection: can occur after the surgery, it is rare and can be treated with antibiotics. You will be given advice on discharge about maintaining good oral hygiene at home following the operation; this will help to prevent infection.

Alternatives

Once you have agreed with the dentist / oral surgeon that surgery is needed there are no alternatives. Other treatment options will have already been considered and / or tried.

After the Operation

Once your child is awake and settled they can be returned to the Children's ward. Once back on the ward the nurse will:

- monitor your child's observations and pain score
- administer pain relief medication if required, and
- encourage fluid and light diet

Bleeding may occur following the oral surgery, if this happens on the ward the nurse will give your son / daughter a gauze pack to bite upon. The pressure of the biting will stop the bleeding.

Your child will have a cannula in the back of their hand; this needs to remain until it is time to go home.



Information for parents and carers

Once your child has recovered sufficiently and the oral surgeons, the nurses and yourself are in agreement you can take your child home.

If the oral surgeon gives you a prescription for medication this needs to be taken to the Lloyds Pharmacy at the hospital to be dispensed.

If your child needs to be seen again in the outpatient clinic you will be told before going home. It may not be possible to give you the date and the time of the appointment, in this case a letter will be sent to you.

Going Home

You should take your child straight home after discharge. They should be encouraged to rest.

It is important you administer pain relief regularly for a few days after being discharged.

Once pain is under control and normal activity is resumed they can return to school.

Your child should not rinse their mouth for the first 24hours after discharge, it may cause bleeding. After 24hours and to help prevent infection you can encourage your child to gently rinse their mouth with warm salt water (a teaspoon of salt in a mug of warm water). This should be done after eating.

Poking at the wound with a finger or sucking may cause bleeding and should be discouraged.

If bleeding does occur place a small piece of rolled up cloth against the wound (usually a tooth socket) and apply pressure by biting together for 15minutes. Keep your child upright. The bleeding should stop. If bleeding continues or you have other concerns contact the hospital.

Any stitches that have been used are usually dissolvable and will drop out after 7-10days. Please try and discourage your child from playing with any stitches with their tongue as they may work loose.

Healthy Teeth and Gums

It is important that everyone maintains good oral health. This includes regularly brushing teeth twice daily, reducing consumption of sugary drinks and sweet especially between meals. After brushing your teeth you should spit and not rinse. You should have regular check-ups with your dentist.

Reference Section

<https://patient.info/doctor/important-complications-of-anaesthesia> Accessed on 11/08/2017.

www.baos.org.uk/resources/OralSurgeryforChildren.pdf accessed on 11/08/2017.

http://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets/Oral%20surgery_Paediatric%20oral%20surgery.htm accessed on 11/08/2017.

<http://www.northwestdentalhealth.nhs.uk/File.ashx?id=13412> accessed on 11/08/2017.



Information for parents and carers

Contact Details for Further Information

Children's Outpatient Department, DPoW: 03033 303057

Paediatric Outpatient Department, SGH: 03033 302027

Rainforest Ward, DPoW: 03033 304477

Disney Ward, SGH: 03033 302553

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service offers confidential advice, support and information on any health related matters.

If you have a comment, concern, complaint or compliment about the care or service you have received from the Trust you can contact the PALS team as follows:

Telephone: 03033 306518

Email: nlq-tr.PALS@nhs.net

There are also offices at both the Diana Princess of Wales Hospital (near the main entrance) and Scunthorpe General Hospital (on the C Floor, near the outpatient department), should you wish to visit.

Please note: PALS should not be contacted for clinical advice relating to the content of this leaflet. The service should be contacted directly in the first instance.

Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust

Diana Princess of Wales Hospital
Scartho Road
Grimsby
DN33 2BA

Scunthorpe General Hospital
Cliff Gardens
Scunthorpe
DN15 7BH

Goole & District Hospital
Woodland Avenue
Goole
DN14 6RX

03033 306999

www.nlg.nhs.uk



Information for parents and carers

Date of Issue: March, 2018

Review Period: March, 2021

Author: Associate Chief Nurse for Children's Services

IFP-1004

© NLGFT 2018

