

Special Care Programme Referral Acceptance Criteria

Referrals that will be accepted:

- Assessment and treatment of patients with additional care needs i.e. physical disabilities who require the use of mechanical aids not available in GDS, learning disabilities, mental health problems, significant medical compromise, frail older patients) where patients cannot be managed in GDS
- Appropriate referrals from hospital medical and surgical specialists
- Dental treatment for patients where a delay to treatment would be detrimental to the patient's medical condition or behaviour
- Pre-procedure assessment of patients that cannot be managed in GDS
- Cardiac and general oncology patients should be assessed and referred only if their care cannot be managed in GDS
- Dental treatment for patients with multiple medical co-morbidities where liaison will be required with medical specialties
- Adults at risk who cannot access oral healthcare in GDS
- Assessment of patients requiring domiciliary care that cannot be provided by GDS
- Assessment of paediatric patients requiring dental treatment under GA/Inhalation Sedation

Referrals that will **NOT** be accepted:

- Routine primary care treatment and prevention
- Patients who have indicated they are not motivated to have treatment carried out at present
- Anxious patients requiring restorations in multiple quadrants in mouths with unsatisfactory oral hygiene
- Referrals for complex restorative treatment/ endodontic access cases/ periodontal problems
- Referrals for routine replacement dentures where patient/dentist is unhappy with existing dentures
- Patients with a history of allergy after dental treatment, who have been investigated and successfully treated with alternative agents (Advice will be given)
- Any patients requiring/requesting:
 - Private treatment options
 - Implants
 - Cosmetic dentistry

Conditions for accepting referrals:

- The patient will require an initial assessment appointment and if sedation or GA is required there is likely to be a significant wait for treatment due to restrictions and waiting times in hospital services
- Patients identified as having an outstanding financial balance with our service will not be accepted.