

Guidelines for the referral of CHILDREN to Solent Special Care Dental Service

Information and Guidance for referring Children to Special Care Dentistry (SCD)

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1) Introduction

This guide is intended to assist with the appropriate referral of children with additional needs or those requiring specialist care.

Before you send a referral to our service please take time to read through the information provided in these guidance notes. Once you have read the referral guidance if you would like further information please call Single Point of Referral Centre on 0300 300 2014 Option 3 (an answer phone is in operation when the service is not manned).

Following treatment, a decision will be made regarding the need to be retained within the service for continuing care. Most children will be discharged back to the referring practitioner for continuing care.

2) Acceptance Criteria

Referrals are accepted from:

- Dental Practitioners
- General Medical Practitioners
- Any other Health or Social Care Professional
- Voluntary organisations and community groups
- Education Professionals/Special schools
- Families, carers

Patients referred to this service must be registered with a GP in the Hampshire / Isle of Wight area.

Patient Information

We accept children with:

- Profound Learning disabilities
- Complex Medical conditions
- Severe Physical disabilities

- Autistic spectrum disorder
- Mental Health Conditions
- Dental Anomalies requiring specialist care
- Trauma

We also accept:

- Looked after Children and those under a Child Protection Plan
- Children with craniofacial anomaly affecting the teeth and jaws
- Children with extensive decay who are unable to manage regular dental care

Referrals are not accepted for:

- Routine treatment for children unless they meet special care criteria
- Orthodontic extractions except in exceptional circumstances

3) Treatment available

Treatment may be provided under local anaesthesia, sedation or general anaesthesia. Inhalation sedation is the most common sedation for children, but occasionally intravenous sedation is offered to older children. Please note general anaesthesia is only provided if treatment cannot be accepted any other way.

Specialist equipment such as wheelchair recliners, hoists and bariatric chairs are available at selected sites.

All care is provided under the NHS regulations and we do not offer private dental care.

4) Additional information for Home Visits

The Special Care Dental Service is only able to accept referrals for home visits for children with severe disability, or with complex medical conditions who cannot travel to the clinic.

5) Completing and sending a Referral

- **DENTISTS – USE REGO (Dental Electronic Referral System)**
- **NON-DENTISTS**

Please complete parts A and B

e.g. Family, carers, social, and non-dental Health Care Professionals

Please note

- Forms must be completed legibly and with all sections completed.
- Forms not completed will be returned to the referrer. This will delay patient care
- Please ensure the patient and/or main carer has been informed of the reasons for this referral.
- Any personal information that is processed by the Trust will be done so in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018.

Please send referral to:

Solent NHS Trust Dental Single Point of Referral, Level A, Royal South Hants
Hospital, Brinton's Terrace, SOUTHAMPTON SO14 0YG

Tel: 0300 300 2014 Option 3

E-mail: SNHS.CentralPointofReferral@nhs.net