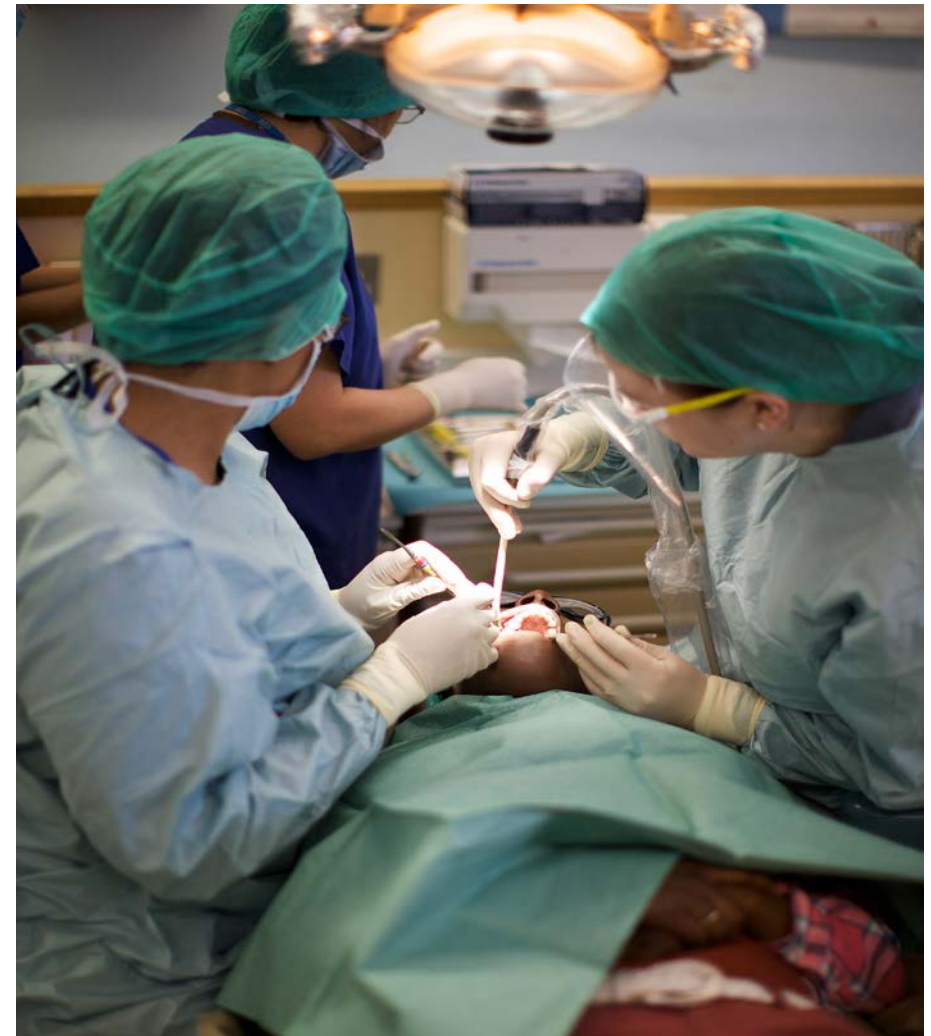


For more information

Contact Prof Tony Ireland - Clinical Lead

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**Guidelines for Referral to Oral and
Maxillofacial Surgery/ Oral Surgery**



Referral Guidelines

OMFS at the RUH NHS Foundation Trust is a consultant led service and accepts the following referrals:

- **Head and neck cancer**
- **Cutaneous malignancy**
- **Salivary gland disorders**
- **Correction of facial deformity**
- **Facial trauma surgery**
- **Oral and dentoalveolar surgery**
- **Temporomandibular disorder**

In the recent months we have seen an unprecedented demand for our secondary care OMFS and Oral Surgery services. As a result we are being asked to look more closely at our acceptance criteria by NHS England.

Many practices are already using our referral proformas and sending appropriate patients with their radiographs. However, we are still receiving a number of inappropriate referrals on which we have to refuse treatment.

Please could we remind you that the following types of referrals are deemed inappropriate and if received will have to be returned to you:

- Routine extraction of premolars for orthodontic reasons
- Patients on Oral Bisphosphonates requiring routine extractions
- Patients on Warfarin with an international normalised ratio (**INR**) < 4 and stable, requiring routine extractions

- Unfounded concerns about creating an oro-antral fistula with routine upper molar extractions
- Apicectomies
- No explanation as to why a patient requires sedation or GA ('Nervous' or "Anxious is insufficient).

[Link to Referral Forms](#)

Further guidance and links to referral proformas can be found the departmental webpage:

www.ruh.nhs.uk/For_Clinicians/departments_ruh/Oral_and_Maxillofacial/

[Patient Access Policy](#)

In line with the 18 week Referral To Treatment (RTT) guidelines, if a hospital referral is initiated please could you make sure patients are aware of the patient access policy and the requirement to be fit, able and ready for treatment. In particular they should be aware:

- It is hospital policy that failure to attend an appointment without notice will result in a discharge from the RUH and your care will be returned to your General Medical/Dental practitioner. In order to be seen again it will require a new referral to be sent to the RUH.
- Two consecutive cancelled appointments will result in a discharge from the RUH. Care will be returned to the General Medical/Dental practitioner. In order to be seen the patient will require a new referral to be sent to the RUH.