

Information for patients having orthognathic surgery

This leaflet aims to explain what to expect when you are ready for orthognathic surgery.

What can I expect at my Joint Clinic appointment?

When your orthodontic treatment has reached the stage that your teeth are in the desired position for surgery you will be given an appointment in a Joint Clinic at Guy's Hospital. You will see the surgeon and consultant orthodontist. They will give you a surgery date, together with a set of **three other appointments**:

- 1) Facial records** – At this appointment, impressions (moulds), a wax bite and facial measurements are taken. This enables the planned surgical movements to be carried out in the laboratory on models before your surgery and the construction of surgical splints (wafers), which the surgeon will use as guides during the surgery.
- 2) Wafer Try In** – This appointment normally takes place on the joint clinic a few days before your surgery. During this appointment the fit of the surgical splints (wafers) are checked by the surgeon, and the final planned movements will be checked.
- 3) Follow-up** – This appointment will be at Guy's approximately a week after surgery to check your progress.

It is important that you do not go away between the facial records appointment and the surgery. You may be required to attend an additional appointment at short notice if we need to discuss the plan with you for any reason.

Can I cancel any of the appointments?

All appointments are essential to attend as they are linked into one another. Missing one will affect the others and risk your surgery date being cancelled. We strongly advise not to cancel any of these appointments unless absolutely essential due to an unforeseen emergency. If you have to cancel an appointment due an unforeseen emergency, please contact the Patient Liaison Officer (see next page for details) as soon as possible to find out if alternative arrangements can be made to avoid delaying your surgery.

If an appointment is cancelled by the hospital the Patient Liaison Officer will contact you directly and inform you of alternative arrangements.

Do I need to attend any other appointments before my surgery?

You will need to attend a pre-assessment appointment at King's College Hospital to check that you are fit for surgery. After we have given you a surgery date, you will receive a letter from Kings College Hospital with the appointment details. If the date is not suitable you may rearrange by calling King's College Hospital on 020 3299 1092.

This pre-assessment appointment can not be given to you at the Joint Clinic as it is arranged separately by Kings College Hospital.

What should I do if any component of the braces breaks before surgery?

If any component of the braces breaks leading up to surgery please contact the Patient Liaison Officer who will tell the consultant in charge. You may be advised to attend the Dental A&E clinic on floor 22 at Guy's Hospital that runs Monday to Friday between 9am-11am.

Further information about orthognathic surgery

You will be given a British Orthodontic Surgery (BOS) patient information leaflet about orthognathic surgery. Further information can be found on the BOS website at www.bos.org.uk/Public-Patients/Your-Jaw-Surgery. If you have any questions about your surgery, please speak to a member of staff caring for you.

Contact us

We are located at:

Dental Department, Tower Wing,
Guy's Hospital, Great Maze Pond,
London SE1 9RT

You can contact the Patient Liaison Officer by phone on 020 7188 7188 ext 53946 (9am-5pm Monday-Friday). Alternatively, please email orthognathic@gstt.nhs.uk

For more information leaflets on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, please visit www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/leaflets

Pharmacy Medicines Helpline

If you have any questions or concerns about your medicines, please speak to the staff caring for you or call our helpline.

t: 020 7188 8748 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

Your comments and concerns

For advice, support or to raise a concern, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS). To make a complaint, contact the complaints department.

t: 020 7188 8801 (PALS) e: pals@gstt.nhs.uk

t: 020 7188 3514 (complaints) e: complaints2@gstt.nhs.uk

Language and Accessible Support Services

If you need an interpreter or information about your care in a different language or format, please get in touch:

t: 020 7188 8815 e: languagesupport@gstt.nhs.uk

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