

Community Dental Service

Patient Escort Information



Patient escort

You have been asked to act as a patient escort for someone who is having dental treatment under intravenous sedation.

It is important that you follow the information in this leaflet. Please read it through and make sure you are happy and able to act as a patient escort.

There are contact numbers on the back of this leaflet if you have any concerns.

Why is a patient escort required?

The drug used to sedate a patient can cause some people to feel disorientated or confused for some time after the treatment.

It is therefore important that someone can stay and take care of them for the remainder of the day.

It is recommended they have someone to stay with them overnight and are supervised until the sedation is completely worn off which can take 24 hours.

They may be unsteady on their feet for a period after having sedation. You may need to support them during this time so will need to be physically fit to do so.

The drug used often stops patients from making memories so they may not remember what treatment they have had and what the dental team have told them.

What is the minimum age of a patient escort?

The patient escort must be 18 years or over.

The patient will not be able to receive treatment until the dentist is satisfied that the patient is in the care of a responsible adult escort.

What are my patient escort responsibilities?

As a patient escort you must:

- Arrive with the patient and remain on the premises throughout treatment
- Not bring children with you to the appointment
- Take the patient home by car or taxi after their treatment
- Encourage the patient to rest for a while once they are home
- Ensure the patient takes appropriate pain relief and follows any other instructions given by the dental team.

What else do I need to know?

The patient's ability to think clearly is likely to be affected by the sedative drug for 24 hours following treatment. During this time the patient should not:

- Make any important decisions or sign legal documents
- Cook or use domestic appliances such as a kettle
- Drive a vehicle, ride a bicycle or operate machinery
- Smoke, drink alcohol or use recreational drugs
- Be responsible for others such as children or adult dependants until the next day.

Patients should:

- Take care when using the internet for personal communication
- Take their prescribed medications as usual
- Follow any instructions given by the dental team to look after their mouth.

Community dental clinic contact information

Cheshire and Mersey area

Chester	Fountains Health Centre	01244 385 563
Sandbach	Ashfields Primary Care Centre	01270 275 151
St Helens	St Helens Dental Clinic	01744 731 395
Warrington	Bath Street Health & Wellbeing Centre	01925 946293
Widnes	Healthcare Resource Centre	0151 495 5042

Greater Manchester area

Bury	Moorgate Primary Care Centre	0161 470 4430
Stockport	Kingsgate House	0161 204 4720

Out of Hours Dental Emergency Dental Services

Cheshire & Merseyside Emergency Dental Helpline: 0161 476 9651

On Mondays to Fridays between 8am and 6pm, if you already have a dentist, you should contact them directly. If you do not have a regular dentist, then call the Dental Helpline 0161 476 9651.

During the 'out of hours' period (6pm to 10pm Monday to Friday, and all day (8am to 10pm) at weekends and Bank Holidays, you can call the helpline whether you have regular dentist or not.

Between 10pm and 8am, patients can still call NHS 111 for urgent dental advice. If patients do call NHS 111 with a dental issue when the helpline is working, they will automatically be redirected to the dental service.

Greater Manchester Urgent Dental Care Telephony Service: 0333 332 3800

The service is accessible to patients living in Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Middleton, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside and Glossop, Trafford and Wigan, every day between 8am and 10pm.

- Patients who are not registered with a dentist can access the service between 8am and 10pm every day.
- Patients who are registered with a dental practice can access the service between 6pm and 10pm on weekdays and 8am to 10pm on weekends.

Patients can contact the service by calling 0333 332 3800 or NHS 111.

For impartial and confidential advice or information on the services provided by Bridgewater or to receive this leaflet in an alternative format call our Patient Services team on 0800 587 0562.