



Direct Access Patient Information Leaflet

You can now book appointments with our dental hygiene-therapist whenever you want to. You do not need to see the dentist first. Our receptionists will be happy to explain how this works and make an appointment for you.

The hygiene-therapist cannot provide the same comprehensive examination as your dentist, so you should continue to see your dentist as usual. Your dentist will let you know how often you need to have a full examination.

Our team

Dentists

Dentists train for five years in all aspects of theoretical and practical dentistry and often undertake additional qualifications after their professional registration. They are clinical professionals who understand and take responsibility for the overall oral health of the patients of their practice. The following dentists work at our practice, and you can find details of their qualifications and GDC registration on our website:

Catherine Turner
David Pattinson
Hamza Ijaz
Hiren Patel
Deepak Sumac
Deborah Hall

Dental hygienists

Dental hygienists train for two to three years in dental schools alongside dentists, or in schools of dental hygiene. They are trained to carry out clinical examinations, assessing the health of gums, provide preventive oral care and liaise with dentists over the treatment of decay and gum disease, undertake scaling, provide topical fluoride treatments and carry out oral cancer screening. The following hygienists work at our practice, and you can find details of their qualifications and GDC registration on our website:

Debra Wright

Dental therapists

Dental therapists usually train for three years alongside dentists in dental schools. They can provide the same treatments as dental hygienists as well as fillings and some extractions. The following therapists work at our practice, and you can find details of their qualifications and GDC registration on our website:

Debra Wright

Dental nurses

Dental nurses train for 12 to 24 months and provide support to dentists, hygienists, therapists and patients. They prepare and maintain the clinical environment, carry out infection prevention and control procedures, prepare and mix dental materials, process dental X-rays and provide chairside support to

dentists, hygienists and therapists. The following nurses work at our practice, and you can find details of their GDC registration on our website:

Pauline Whicher
Suzanne Frith
Faye Purchase

Clinical Dental Technicians

Clinical dental technicians (CDTs) are dental technicians who have undertaken additional training to work with patients for the provision of dentures. They provide most of their work on prescription from a dentist but they can provide full sets of dentures to edentulous patients directly. The following clinical dental technicians work at our practice, and you can find details of their qualifications and GDC registration on our website:

David Hinckley

Further information about what each member of the team is trained to do can be found in the General Dental Council's publication **Scope of practice** (visit www.gdc-uk.org).