Special Care Dental Service in Lincolnshire
Lincolnshire Referrals and Criteria

How to refer

General Dental Practitioners:

If you are a GDP based in Lincolnshire, all referrals must be sent through the agreed NHS England Central Midlands pathway. In order to ensure that patients are seen in appropriate settings, and that referrals meet a minimum data standard for patient care – **all referrals** must be submitted online using the commissioned referral service.
You can read more about the service and sign up to process this, and future referrals, at the following website: www.dental-referrals.org/dentists/signup

All other referrers:

For all other referrers, please download our referral form which can be found on our website, www.communitydentalservices.co.uk , once this has been completed you can send your referral electronically to; cds.lincsreferrals@nhs.net or alternatively you can post it to:

Community Dental Services
North Hykeham Health Centre
Moor Lane
North Hykeham
Lincoln
LN6 9BA

Criteria:

The Special Care Dental Service in Lincolnshire provides a service for those whose oral care needs (on-going or part of a single treatment plan) cannot be met through other NHS primary care dental contracts owing to their additional needs (medical, physical or behavioural).

Many children and adults with additional needs can be treated within the General Dental Service. However, if a patient's particular needs mean that if specialist skills, equipment or facilities are required GDPs may refer to CDS-CIC for an assessment.

The Service is for patients that are resident, including homeless and socially excluded groups, within the county of Lincolnshire, incorporating the Clinical Commissioning Areas of South Lincolnshire, Lincolnshire East, Lincolnshire West, South West Lincolnshire that meet the following criteria:

Children & adults who cannot be managed by a General Dental Practitioner (GDP) owing to:

- Severe or uncontrolled medical problems.
- Severe mental health problems including late stage dementia
- Severe and profound learning disabilities.
- Severe physical problems including patients whose treatment cannot be provided in their wheelchair and require a hoist to access the dental chair (hoist facilities available at Boston, North Hykeham and Spalding)
- Severe autism which significantly affects the patient's behaviour when receiving dental treatment
- Life-limiting conditions.
- Significantly immunocompromised / immunosuppressed.

- Hereditary bleeding disorders where additional measures required cannot be delivered in general dental practice
- Highly anxious patients, both child and adult, where the GDP has evidenced at least 2 attempts at treatment, and can demonstrate what has been achieved at each failed treatment attempt
- Bariatric care where the patient can transfer to the bariatric dental chair and is able to travel to Skegness (bariatric dental chair clinic) for treatment, or who is wheelchair bound and is able to travel to Boston (bariatric wheelchair tipper available)
- Severe retching problems which prevent routine care.
- Domiciliary care for housebound patients.
- Adult /Child safeguarding issues, or looked after children, who are referred by Social Care services.
- Those with no fixed address and unable to receive dental care with a general dental practitioner eg Women's refuge, homeless etc

The service also provides domiciliary care for patients with long term and/or progressive medical conditions; mental illness or dementia, causing disorientation and confusion in unfamiliar environments; or increasing frailty which means that they are housebound.

The service can offer behaviour management and dental care for a child with high levels of dental decay as part of a joint treatment plan with the referring dentist.

The service may provide a single item of treatment or a complete course of dental treatment for a patient and then discharge them from the service to return to their referring practitioner. Occasionally, where appropriate, the service will provide a patient's long-term dental care. It is recognised that patients' needs do change with time and patients may be discharged after receiving care from the Special Care Dentistry Service for a period of time if their on-going dental needs can be provided by the General Dental Service.

Pain management for referred patients is the responsibility of the referring dentist.

If you have any questions regarding referrals, please contact our referral centre.