

Consent Policy

The practice follows the GDC guidelines 'Principles of Patient Consent'. All clinical team members providing treatment requiring consent are adequately trained and ensure that the patient has:

- Enough information to make a decision (informed consent)
- Made a decision (voluntary decision-making)
- The ability to make an informed decision (ability).

The nature of treatment and all charges are clarified to the patient before the treatment commences and s/he is provided with a written treatment plan and cost estimate. All team members are aware that once the consent has been given it may be withdrawn at any time and they will respect the patient's decision. If the team member is uncertain about the patient's ability to give informed consent they will consult their dental defence organisation for advice.

We ensure that:

- 1) Patients have time to consider the treatment plan.
- 2) Patients understand the fees, what they are for and how they need to pay.
- 3) Patients are given receipts and statements of accounts when requested.
- 4) We respect a patient's wishes to have a second person to help understand the options and make an informed decision.
- 5) We respect and take into account a patient's decision to refuse or withdraw consent.

Children

A child (> 16 years of age) may be competent to make their own decisions and should be respected. Where a child is unable to give consent, we will identify who has parental responsibility.