



Greater Manchester Orthodontic Managed Clinical Network

Parent Information - Orthodontic Extractions

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Orthodontic treatment may involve extracting some adult teeth before the braces are placed. The options for your child's orthodontics extractions will be discussed with you by your dentist. The UK clinical guidance (2008) helps your dentist and paediatric specialist consultants to weigh up the best and safest way to treat young patients. Your dentist is aware of this guidance and can talk it through with you and answer any questions. The following options are available for routine orthodontic extractions:

	What this means
<u>Local Anaesthetic</u>	This involves numbing the gum each side of the tooth to be extracted. Your dentist can place numbing gel beforehand to make the injection more comfortable. This is the quickest way of completing the extraction(s).
<u>Local Anaesthetic with sedation</u>	This involves breathing in a nitrous oxide and oxygen sedative through a small tube placed over the nose. It makes your child very drowsy so they are more relaxed and also don't tend to remember the extraction(s). The tooth/ teeth are still numbed up with a local anaesthetic injection. If this option is chosen, it is usually carried out by a specialist in paediatric dentistry at a community centre or hospital.
<u>General Anaesthetic (GA)</u>	<p>This involves going to sleep to have a surgical procedure carried out. GA for orthodontic patients is used for more complex cases. For example, uncovering or removing teeth buried under the gum, removal of molar teeth or roots that are very broken down, cyst removal, or children with special needs.</p> <p>Routine dental extractions under GA are only offered where clinically appropriate or where local anaesthesia (with or without sedation) has been tried, but is unsuccessful. It is not usually possible to have a general anaesthetic for routine extractions prior to orthodontic treatment. This is because there are risks with every GA and we would want to minimise the number of GA's over a lifetime.</p> <p>If your child is anxious about orthodontic extractions, a safer alternative is to wait until you child is a little older and more able to have their orthodontic extractions under local anaesthetic with or without sedation.</p>

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UK National Clinical Guidelines in Paediatric Dentistry Guideline for the Use of General Anaesthesia (GA) in Paediatric Dentistry RCS England 2008.