

REFERRAL GUIDELINES: **DENTAL****Essential
Referral
Content****Demographic**

- Date of birth
- Contact details (including mobile phone)
- Referring GP details
- Interpreter requirements
- Medicare number

Clinical

- Reason for referral
- Duration of symptoms
- Relevant pathology & imaging reports
- Past medical history
- Current medications

The Alfred Outpatient Referral Form is available to print and fax to the Outpatient Department on 9076 6938

**Exclusion
Criteria**

The Alfred Dental Unit provides specialized dental treatment of medically complex patients. Medically fit patients are not seen at The Alfred except in emergency circumstances.

The Alfred Dental Unit is unable to provide:

- Crowns
- Bridge work
- Endodontic treatment (root canal treatment)

The following services are not provided unless in special circumstances:

- Maintenance dentistry (cleaning, dental check ups)
- Restorative treatments (fillings)
- Children under 18 years of age are not seen at The Alfred
- Patients who are being treated for the same condition at another Victorian public hospital.

COVID-19 Impact — Specialist Clinics May 2020

As part of Alfred Health's COVID-19 response plan, significant changes have been made to Specialist Clinic (Outpatient) services. All referrals received will be triaged; however, if your patient's care is assessed as not requiring an appointment within the next three months, the referral may be declined.

Where possible, care will be delivered via telehealth (phone or video consultation).

Please note: The times to assessment may vary depending on size and staffing of the hospital department.

If you are concerned about the delay of the outpatient appointment or if there is any deterioration in the patient's condition, please contact the Dental Registrar on call on 9076 2000.

REFERRAL PRIORITY: **DENTAL**

The clinical information provided in your referral will determine the triage category. The triage category will affect the timeframe in which the patient is offered an appointment.

<p>IMMEDIATE</p> <p>Direct to the Emergency & Trauma Centre</p>	<p>URGENT</p> <p>Appointment timeframe within 30 days</p>	<p>ROUTINE</p> <p>Appointment timeframe greater than 30 days depending on clinical need</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of airway obstruction • Bleeding in haemophilia patients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signs of oral infection with immunocompromise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low grade infections • Periodontal disease • Undiagnosed oral swelling • Partially erupted, chronically inflamed wisdom teeth
<p>Phone the Dental Registrar on call on 9076 2000 and/or send to The Alfred Emergency & Trauma Centre.</p>	<p>Urgent cases must be discussed with the Dental Registrar on call to obtain appropriate prioritisation and then a referral letter faxed to 9076 6938.</p>	<p>Fax referral to 9076 6938</p>

If you are concerned about the delay of the outpatient appointment or if there is any deterioration in the patient’s condition, please contact the Dental Registrar on call on 9076 2000.

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ANTICOAGULANTS

Evaluation	Management	Referral Guidelines
Medical history Medications Duration of dental problem Warfarin dose INR Reason for anticoagulation	Maintain Warfarin unless outside therapeutic guidelines. Do not cease any anticoagulation medications	Refer—Routine If the patient does not require dental extraction then not routinely seen at The Alfred Dental Clinic.

BONE MARROW TRANSPLANTATION

Evaluation	Management	Referral Guidelines
Medical history Medications, bisphosphonates (including last dose and total number of doses) Duration of dental problem FBE		If pre-transplant, refer—Urgent If post-transplant, refer—Routine

DIABETES

Evaluation	Management	Referral Guidelines
Medical history Medications Duration of dental problem Insulin HbA1c	Patients can have normal meals and medications before all outpatient appointments.	If unstable diabetes with oral infection, urgent dental attention is required , refer - Urgent Stable diabetics are not routinely seen at The Alfred Dental Clinic.

HEAD AND NECK MALIGNANCIES

Evaluation	Management	Referral Guidelines
Medical history Medications Duration of dental problem Tumour type and histology Details of radiotherapy		If pre-operation, refer—Urgent If post-operation, refer—Routine

HAEMOPHILIA

Evaluation	Management	Referral Guidelines
Medical history Medications Duration of dental problem		If bleeding, send IMMEDIATELY to The Alfred Emergency and Trauma Centre. Otherwise refer—Routine

HEART VALVES

Evaluation	Management	Referral Guidelines
Medical history Medications Duration of dental problem Warfarin dose INR Reason for anticoagulation		Any oral infection in a patient with heart valve needs to be assessed urgently, refer - Urgent If pre-surgery, refer—Urgent Patients post-surgery are not routinely seen at The Alfred Dental Clinic unless anticoagulated.

HIV/INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Evaluation	Management	Referral Guidelines
Medical history Medications Duration of dental problem CD4 count Other viral serology eg Hepatitis C		If immunocompromised with oral infection, urgent dental attention is required, refer - Urgent Patients with CD4 count >150 are not routinely seen at The Alfred Dental Clinic.

ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION

Evaluation	Management	Referral Guidelines
Medical history Medications Duration of dental problem Degree of immunosuppression Type of therapy		If immunocompromised with oral infection, urgent dental attention is required; refer - Urgent If pre-transplant, refer—Urgent Stable patients are not routinely seen at The Alfred Dental Clinic.

Antiresorptive therapies

Evaluation	Management	Referral Guidelines
<p>Medical history</p> <p>Medications including last dose of bisphosphonate or Denosumab and duration of medication</p> <p>Duration of dental problem</p>		<p>Refer—Routine</p> <p>Only eligible for dental extractions.</p> <p>If suspected medication-related osteonecrosis of the jaw, refer –Urgent</p>