

The Natural Smile

NEW PATIENT INFORMATION

ADULTS:

New adult patients are invited to join the Practice under private care arrangements.

The principal benefits of private dental care are outlined in this leaflet. However, we are happy to answer any further questions you may have regarding insurance schemes and alternative methods of payment.

CHILDREN:

Free NHS treatment for children is a priority for this practice. With changes in the NHS dental contract about to take place, however, we are only able to take children on on a private basis at present. This will be on a reduced fee basis (see 'How much will it cost?'). Once we have established a list of child patients we would hope to attain an NHS contract for their ongoing care.

Please register your child to enable us to present our case to the Primary Care trust later in the year.

PRIVATE CARE FEATURES:

- No joining fee
- No monthly subscription
- You pay only for your examinations and treatments

But isn't private care dentistry the same as NHS only more expensive?

- NHS regulations limit certain types of dental treatment and impose restrictions regarding the materials that may be used.
- For private care patients there are no such restrictions. New dental materials and procedures provide significant improvements in appearance leading to increased patient confidence and satisfaction.
- Private patients also benefit from longer appointments in a more relaxed atmosphere.

Superior materials and procedures

- **Tooth whitening techniques** and superb new tooth-like filling materials and porcelains for crowns, bridges and veneers are now available.
- Incredibly realistic new tooth-like and gum-like acrylics for full and partial dentures.

More time with the dentist

- Private care means more time to listen to your needs, discuss proposed treatment options and offer you appropriate advice on a variety of dental issues.
- To reduce the risk of decay and other dental disorders we spend time on oral hygiene techniques (eg. brushing and flossing), as well as providing help and advice on smoking cessation.

Improved patient education

- An in-mouth intra-oral camera is used to take before and after photographs to help you identify problems and to see how they improve after treatment.
- Computer graphics will help you visualise treatments and procedures more clearly.
- A wide selection of literature will be available for you to take away.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM US?

- As a new private care patient, you will be offered an 'initial dental assessment' where you can share your dental concerns and aspirations with your dentist and benefit from a thorough dental examination.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

- Our current fee guide is on display in the reception area.
- The price of your **initial assessment is £60**. This includes:
 - full dental and periodontal (gum) assessment
 - oral cancer screening
 - two small x-rays
 - diet/lifestyle and oral hygiene assessment and advice.
- Following your assessment, a fully costed and itemised treatment plan will be provided to reflect the various options that have been discussed with you.

WHAT DO WE EXPECT FROM YOU?

- In return, we do ask you to attend on time for your dental treatment and require 24 hours notice if you wish to cancel or re-arrange an appointment. We do normally charge for missed appointments and late cancellations.

Please refer to our 'Practice Information Leaflet' for further policy details.

The Natural Smile - doing things well - naturally!