



## EXTRACTIONS

### Teeth require extracting because they are:

- Too badly broken down to be saved, either through decay or fracture
- Heavily abscessed and the person does not want a root filling
- Wisdom teeth that are causing problems
- Very loose due to gum disease
- Damaged by gum disease and cannot be saved

Please tell us before the extraction appointment if your medical history has changed i.e if you are currently taking blood-thinning medications like Warfarin, diet dependant diabetic or have developed blood clotting problems etc.

### Expected complications

- Numbness lasting a few hours.
- Soreness, bruising and localised swelling lasting up to a week.

### Common risks and complications

- Trauma to other parts of the mouth including adjacent teeth, gums, cheeks, tongue etc.
- Prolonged post-operative pain due to poor healing or infection.
- Fracture of the tooth during the procedure which can lead to a minor surgical procedure being required or a piece of the tooth being left because it cannot be removed.

### Rare risks and complications

- Trauma to tissues underneath the tooth including bone, sinus, nerves supplying other teeth etc.
- A communication (hole) between the mouth and sinus.
- Displacement of part of the tooth into the sinus.

### Alternative options

1. Referral to a specialist in this field who may be able treat the tooth better via the use of specialist equipment etc.
2. It may be possible to save the tooth with different treatment such as a root canal treatment etc.
3. Refusing treatment but this will result in a high risk of further pain and infection from this tooth.

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**On the day of your appointment:**

1. Make sure you have eaten something light beforehand. Lack of glucose in the blood could make you feel faint.
2. It may be advisable to bring someone with you who can accompany you home.
3. Wear comfortable clothing.
4. For 24hrs after the extraction you will need to avoid any strenuous activities or vigorous exercise.
5. A post –op leaflet will be given to you after your extraction.

**YOU MUST NOT SMOKE THE DAY BEFORE, THE DAY OF AND SEVERAL DAYS AFTER YOUR EXTRACTION.**

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