

Periodontics

Referrals for periodontics must be made using the [Periodontics Acceptance Criteria](#) and emailed to leedsth-tr.restorativereferral@nhs.net.

Leeds Dental Institute provides:

- An assessment and advice service for periodontal patients
- Secondary care treatment by staff members as detailed in the criteria below
- Routine periodontal treatment by undergraduate dental students/ student hygiene and therapists*

Patients accepted for secondary care **assessment (not necessarily treatment)** include those with:

- Fast rate of disease (**Grade C disease**), judged by severity of periodontal destruction relative to age or rate of periodontal breakdown.
- A need for **surgical management** (e.g. Mucogingival procedures for recession defects, open flap debridement, regenerative procedures)
- **Severe periodontal disease influenced by a medical condition** (e.g. poorly controlled diabetes, drug induced gingival hyperplasia)
- **A risk of complications from periodontal treatment which are not feasibly managed within primary care** (e.g. severe bleeding disorders, immunocompromised)
- A requirement for **complex restorative planning** in a patient with periodontal disease.

*A certain number of cases are required each year after which the waiting list may be closed. Information about this pathway is available on the University of Leeds website: <https://medhealth.leeds.ac.uk/info/1260/treatment>. There may be a delay in treatment commencing.

Please note that even if treatment in secondary care is anticipated, initial therapy should normally be carried out in the primary care setting, including:

- Oral health education: tooth brushing instruction/ interdental cleaning instruction.
- Smoking cessation advice (if appropriate).
- Full mouth supra and subgingival debridement, carried out with local anaesthetic where required
- Periodontal charts recorded prior to and 2-3 months after completion of the above.

All referrals should include the following:

- Periodontal Referral Form (*please ensure that you use the current referral form – contact the LDI via email: leedsth-tr.restorativereferral@nhs.net)
- Basic Periodontal Examination (BPE) scores
- Periodontal charts including probing depths, mobility and plaque scores (pre and post treatment, taken within 12 months of referral)
- Confirmation that appropriate primary care, as detailed above, has been completed
- Radiographs **of diagnostic quality**

Referrals not meeting these criteria will be returned with a request for further information.

Discharge procedures following periodontal treatment:

- Following treatment, patients are referred back to their practitioner with recommendations for a life-long supportive periodontal therapy programme. This emphasises the role of patients and primary care provider in disease management. Supportive care is essential for maintaining periodontal stability.
- There will be a percentage of patients who fail to adhere to the proposed treatment plan. These patients will be discharged with a plan for supportive care within the primary care sector, accepting that a gradual deterioration is likely.