

**21/07/2021**

Orthodontic Report for the LDC:

As you may be aware all new patient's assessments and review appointments are no longer credited with one Unit of Orthodontic Activity. This has meant that we have had to streamline our orthodontic assessments to ensure that patients are ready for orthodontic treatment by meeting NHS criteria and that their oral hygiene is of a suitable level for orthodontic treatment before we see them clinically. Following CDO advice, patients who are IOTN 3 with Aesthetic 6 are also deemed to be low priority so will be put at the bottom of the waiting list.

To achieve this at Neat Teeth we ask our patients to:

- Send in photographs or videos of their teeth prior to having a new patient appointment.
- Patients unable to send in video or photographs will still be seen to avoid any discrimination or access to NHS care issues
- Patients submitting videos will often be seen initially via the Attend Anywhere Platform

In addition to these changes, we are also advising patients that routine orthodontic extractions under General Anaesthetic will **not** be possible on the NHS as GA lists are prioritised. Impacted teeth, carious teeth first molars or other significant malocclusion problems may be possible subject to assessment within the hospital services.

Should patients want to consider routine orthodontic extractions under General Anaesthetic, this could be considered privately.

Electronic referrals for carious first molars or impacted canines (which may require Cone Beam CT Scans) are being referred onto the secondary care services for further investigation if General Anaesthetic is likely to be required.

Currently who fail initial orthodontic assessment appointments could be likely to face significant waiting times again to be seen. This is the case across the whole NHS including all our colleagues working across primary and secondary care.