

## Information for patients seeking dental treatment in Portsmouth

General dental services for NHS patients are provided from 22 dental practices in the Portsmouth area.

You do not need to register with a dental practice in the same way you would with a GP practice and you are able to change dental practices between check-ups if you wish to do so. This means a dental practice's ability to care for new NHS patients can change during the course of the year, depending on the number of patients seeking treatment at any given time.

We advise you to check which dental practices in the area are able to provide appointments at the point you are seeking NHS treatment.

Routine dental check-ups should be in line with national clinical guidelines and the time between check-ups for each patient can vary from three months to two years, depending on your clinical needs.

You can check for updates about local dental practices that are able to offer routine appointments to new patients at any given time by visiting the Wessex Dental Advisory website at [www.wessexdentalhelpline.nhs.uk](http://www.wessexdentalhelpline.nhs.uk) or the NHS website at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk). You can also call the NHS 111 service on 111 for advice on this or contact local dental practices directly.

If you are in pain and need urgent dental treatment, contact the NHS 111 service by calling 111. You will then be referred to a local dental practice to receive any urgent treatment, as needed.