**PATIENT ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA**

**ADULT SPECIAL CARE DENTAL SERVICE**

The Adult Special Care Dentistry (SCD) Service is for those patients over the age of 16 years whose needs may not be accommodated in NHS General Dental Services. We accept patients who live within the boundaries of Hull and East Riding only.

There are four referral forms:

1. General Adult Special Care Dentistry Referral
2. Oncology Referral
3. Adults with a severe dental anxiety/dental phobia – please complete both the Adult SCD Referral Form and the dental anxiety/phobia supplemental form.
4. Adults requiring a domiciliary visit – please complete both the Adult SCD Referral Form and the domiciliary supplemental form

The main types of referrals that will be accepted includes the following groups:

* People with moderate/severe and profound multiple learning disabilities
* People with moderate/severe physical and/or communication impairment
* People with moderate/severe chronic mental health conditions including dementia
* People with complex medical conditions
* People with severe dental anxiety or dental phobia. Any patients with dental anxiety/phobia will initially be referred for a screening appointment with the emotional wellbeing service, Let’s Talk, for suitability to engage in cognitive behavioural therapy prior to being accepted to the Adult SCD waiting list.
* Bariatric people

Other vulnerable groups who **may** need to access the Adult SCD service for some, or all, of their care include, but are not exclusive to:

* Socially excluded people, for example homeless, migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, gypsies, travellers and sex workers
* People with drug or alcohol addiction problems
* People living in secure units.

Most referrals will be accepted for a single course of treatment and then discharged unless it is felt that the adult would be better managed long term in the Adult SCD Service or a shared care arrangement.

It would be expected that for most patients that they continue to see their General Dental Practitioner for routine reviews and prevention following national guidance, whilst waiting for management by the Adult SCD Service.

If the referral is made outside this criteria the referring dentist must justify the reasons why the treatment cannot be undertaken by them in primary dental care.

A referral will only be returned to the referring practitioner after a clinician has reviewed it. The referring practitioner will be contacted stating the reason for rejection. It is then up to the practitioner to provide more details before re-referring a patient.