

PATIENT INFORMATION · GENERAL DENTISTRY

General dentistry

Everyday dental care for the whole family, from check-ups to repairs and replacing teeth.

What is it?

General dentistry covers the care most people need to keep their teeth and gums healthy, and to repair or replace teeth when problems happen. A regular check-up helps find problems early, when they are usually simpler to treat.

- **Check-ups and cleans:** exams, X-rays when needed, and a scale and clean
- **Fillings:** tooth-coloured repairs for decay or small chips
- **Crowns and bridges:** including CEREC same-day crowns
- **Root canal treatment:** to treat an inflamed or infected nerve
- **Extractions:** including wisdom teeth, under local anaesthetic
- **Dentures and night guards:** designed from digital scans
- **Children's dentistry:** first visits, check-ups and fissure protection
- **Emergencies:** we try to see you as soon as possible

Who it may help

- ✓ Children, teens and adults
- ✓ Anyone due for a check-up and clean
- ✓ People with toothache, sensitivity, bleeding gums or a broken tooth

Suitability depends on your individual situation and is confirmed after an examination.

How it works



1 We ask about your health, then check your teeth, gums, bite and soft tissues.



2 Bitewing X-rays may be taken to check between the teeth.



3 A scale and clean, if booked.



4 We agree a care plan and when to come back.

Simplified illustration, not to scale. Your own treatment may differ.

What to expect

- 1 Your health and history.** We ask about your general health and medicines, and any concerns you have.
- 2 Examination.** Your teeth, gums, bite and soft tissues are checked. X-rays are only taken when your dentist needs them.

What to expect (continued)

- 3 **Scale and clean.** If booked, plaque and tartar are removed and the teeth are polished.
- 4 **Your care plan.** We talk through any treatment options, with a written estimate for planned treatment, and agree when to come back.

Any surgical or invasive procedure carries risks. Before proceeding, you should seek a second opinion from an appropriately qualified health practitioner.

Aftercare

- ✓ **Brush twice a day:** for two minutes, with fluoride toothpaste
- ✓ **Clean between your teeth:** every day with floss or interdental brushes
- ✓ **Limit sugary and acidic food and drink:** and avoid tobacco
- ✓ **Regular check-ups:** as often as your dentist recommends, often every 6 to 12 months

General guidance only. Always follow the specific instructions your dentist gives you.

Costs & health funds

Fees depend on your treatment and are confirmed after an examination, with a written estimate before planned treatment starts. Your health fund rebate depends on your fund, level of extras cover, annual limits and waiting periods. We can claim on the spot with Tyro, so on the day you pay any gap. All health funds are welcome.

Questions to ask your dentist

- ? How often should I come for a check-up and clean?
- ? Do I need X-rays today, and why?
- ? Which problems did you find, and how urgent are they?
- ? What are my options, and what does each involve?
- ? What can I do at home to look after my teeth and gums?
- ? What will my health fund cover?

Before your first visit

- ✓ Register online before you come (about 5 minutes), or complete the form at reception
- ✓ Arrive about 10 to 15 minutes early to settle in
- ✓ Your Medicare card and health fund card, for on-the-spot claiming with Tyro
- ✓ A DVA or concession card, if you have one
- ✓ A list of your medicines, including blood thinners and supplements
- ✓ A referral letter, and recent X-rays or scans from another dentist, if you have them
- ✓ Glasses for reading forms
- ✓ Eat and drink as normal beforehand, and brush your teeth if you can

General guidance only. Always follow your dentist's specific instructions.

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