

## Wisdom Tooth Removal

If we recommend the removal of a wisdom tooth, the treatment can be carried out either in the Practice or, you may be referred to the hospital. This will largely depend on how complex your dentist feels that the extraction might be.

The most likely reason for referral for tooth removal from this Practice would be the need for surgical removal or possible difficulties regarding the local nerve to the wisdom tooth

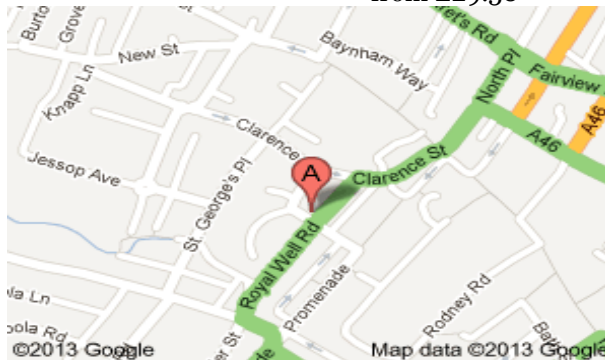
### *Are All Wisdom Tooth Extractions Painful/Difficult?*

- Most removals of wisdom teeth are thankfully no different to any other removal of a tooth.
- In order to reduce postoperative discomfort/complications, we may discuss the use of pre-operative pain relief or antibiotics and postoperative mouthwashes
- The most common postoperative symptoms (if any occur, as you may well have no particular post operative impact other than mild soreness), would be temporary localised swelling and discomfort which can be easily managed with anti-inflammatories

## Regency House Dental Practice



Ask your dentist or hygienist about how to best clean your problematic wisdom tooth. It may make the difference between maintenance or removal. Hygienist appointments are available from £29.50



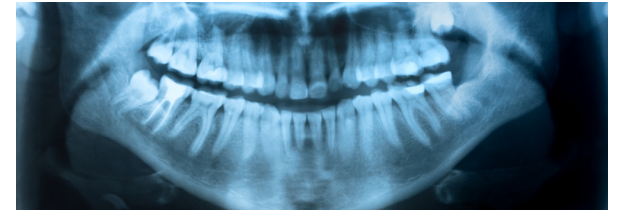
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## Treatment Of An Impacted Wisdom Tooth



### **What To Expect If You Are Suffering With Impacted Wisdom Teeth**

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## What Is An Impacted Wisdom Tooth?

- A wisdom tooth is the “third molar”
- We don’t all have wisdom teeth
- If there is not enough “room” in the jaw or if the tooth has developed at an angle, the wisdom tooth may not erupt correctly into the mouth
- In these instances, the tooth is “impacted”, either into soft tissue, bone or another tooth

### • How do I know if I have an impacted wisdom tooth?

The most common way of knowing if you have an impacted wisdom tooth is from the symptom of pain from the tooth. You may also hear the dentist calling “impacted” to their nurse when “charting” your teeth. Sometimes, you may be unaware of the impaction but your dentist may advise that it could still be significant for you

### • If my wisdom tooth is not impacted, should I be worried?

There is no need to be concerned about your wisdom teeth if there is no impaction. Your dentist will continue to monitor the teeth and advise you if there is concern. The concern that some patients have is that of the wisdom teeth causing crowding of the front teeth. There is no general consensus that this is the case.

## Do All Impacted Wisdom Teeth Have To Be Taken Out?

The simple answer to this is NO. There are guidelines that have been produced by NICE (National Institute for Clinical Excellence) in 2000, that set out the possible treatments for impacted wisdom teeth.

### Possible Treatments:

- We may advise that, following clinical examination, we simply **monitor** your impaction and the localised effects. There has been some discussion over the years regarding the removal of ALL wisdom teeth. The balance of evidence is not in favour of this due to the possibility of post-operative complications that can follow the removal of these teeth
- We may try as a first line, **antibiotics**. This will only be in the case of an infection. The antibiotics would hopefully clear the infection at which point, we could continue to monitor
- **Extraction** of the tooth. If we feel that the impaction is going to continue to cause problems either with respect to infection, decay to a neighbouring tooth, the presence of a cyst or other deep pathological issue, then we will advise extraction of the tooth

## What Problems Can Leaving The Impaction Cause?

- Ongoing infections
- Decay to the tooth in front
- Abscess
- Cyst formation
- Localised gum disease with potential effects to the tooth in front

If it has been advised that you have the offending tooth removed, it will be to avoid one of the above events. In this instance, the decision is made in consultation with the patient and it is ultimately your choice. You will be made aware of why we are recommending the removal and what the repercussions will be if it is not removed.

