

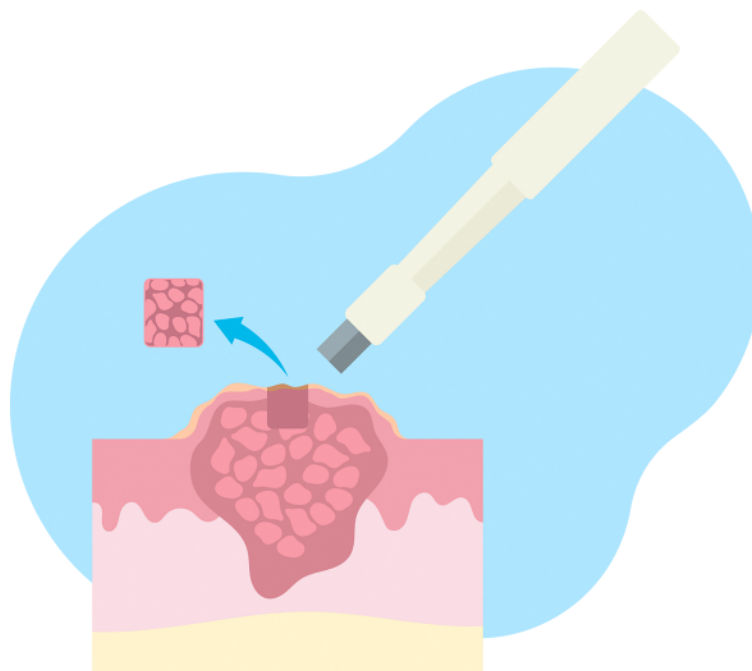
Open Access Services - Management of Dentofacial Trauma

About Open Access Services

Open Access Services is a programme by Woodlands Health (WH) that allows patients seeking medical attention at primary care facilities to have direct referral access to endoscopy, minor surgery, and advanced imaging, bypassing the need for a consultation with a specialist.

Why Am I Being Referred for this Procedure?

Based on your symptoms, your doctor has referred you for a minor procedure known as 'management of dentofacial trauma'. Information about this procedure can be found on pages 3 and 4.



What to Expect

1

Before Procedure

- Your doctor confirms your eligibility for the procedure.
- You may either call WH's Dental Surgery to schedule an appointment or visit the clinic as a walk-in:



Call to make an appointment

6363 3131

Mon - Fri: 8am to 8pm

Sat, Sun and PH: 8am to 2pm

Walk-in to WH Dental Surgery Clinic

Woodlands Health Campus

Tower C, Level 1

Mon - Fri: 8.30am to 5.30pm

Sat, Sun and PH: Closed

2

Procedure Day

- Arrive at the Dental Surgery Clinic at Woodlands Health Campus, Tower C, Level 1.
- A doctor will conduct a screening check and seek your consent before the procedure.



3

After Procedure

- A WH staff will advise you on next steps including booking of a follow-up appointment (if needed) and payment.
- Please return home to rest.
- Depending on your results, you may be informed to follow up with your doctor or specialist.



About the Management of Dentofacial Trauma Procedure

1. What is Management of Dentofacial Trauma?

Dentofacial trauma refers to traumatic injuries to the face and mouth that involve the teeth, bones, jaw joints, muscles and soft tissue. Common injuries include soft tissue lacerations and wounds (to the face, muscles, gums, tongue), bony fractures to the facial bones and tooth-bearing bones in the mouth, as well as damages to the teeth (e.g. dislodgements, intrusions and fractures).

2. Why do I need this procedure?

Minor dentofacial trauma can be expediently managed under local anaesthesia in an outpatient setting. Early management of these injuries can promote quicker healing, fewer complications and better outcomes.

3. What are the preparations for the procedure?

After applying basic first aid, please direct all patients to the Dental Surgery Clinic during office hours, or the Accident and Emergency department after office hours.

Partially dislodged teeth should be left inside the mouth. Teeth that have been completely dislodged from the mouth should be stored in a cup of saline or fresh milk. Do not wash or scrub the roots of these teeth to avoid damaging the delicate cells for reimplantation to be successful.

4. How is the procedure performed?

Radiographic investigations with X-rays or CT scans can be done in the Dental Surgery clinic to determine the extent of injuries.

Soft tissue injuries will be cleaned, inspected and closed with stitches as required. Displaced or loose teeth that can be repositioned will be splinted with wires and dental cements. Some jaw fractures may be conservatively managed by splinting the upper and lower teeth together, while more severe ones will require internal fixation with mini bone screws and plates under general anaesthesia.

5. What are the risks and complications of the procedure?

Common post-procedural complications include pain, bleeding, swelling and infections which are usually managed with adequate rest and medication. Other complications usually depend on the extent of injuries from the trauma (scarring, loss of teeth and inability to bite) that vary from case to case.

6. What would I expect after the procedure?

You will usually be able to return home after the procedure, except in cases where the trauma is severe enough to require a hospital admission. There may be some pain after the effects of local anaesthesia wear off, but the medications prescribed would help to alleviate pain and swelling. Your mouth opening may be limited for a few weeks. Consume a soft, non-chew, pureed diet for the next few days and maintain good oral hygiene by rinsing with the prescribed mouthwash after each meal.

7. What will happen if I do not undergo the procedure?

Healing following dentofacial trauma is the most ideal when proper management is carried out expediently. Poorer outcomes such as persistent infections, delayed healing, and prolonged loss of function may occur if these injuries are not managed in a timely and appropriate manner.

Disclaimer:

This information sheet mentions some of the more common or important risks of surgery/ procedure. It does not and cannot cover every possible scenario or detail.

Day of Procedure

Arriving For Your Appointment

- On the day of your procedure, please arrive at:
Dental Surgery Clinic, Tower C, Level 1
Woodlands Health Campus
17 Woodlands Drive 17
Singapore 737628



Directions to Woodlands Health Campus



Getting around Campus

- Please arrive 1 hour before your appointment time.
- If you do not receive your appointment details within 3 working days from the date of your clinic visit, please call 6363 8000.
- Please keep to your scheduled date. However, if you are unwell (i.e. fever, cough and flu), or wish to postpone/ cancel the procedure, please call 6363 8000 (Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5.30pm or Saturday 8.30am to 12.30pm).

Preparation

- This procedure is performed under local anaesthesia, hence fasting is not mandatory.
- It is best to stop smoking around 2 - 3 days before the surgery as it can significantly increase the risk of complications.
- As you will likely receive anaesthetic injections, which will last around 2 - 3 hours, do have a light meal before the procedure.

Documents to Bring

Identification:

- Singapore NRIC
- SAF identity card (11B)
- Non-Singaporeans: Passport, entry permit, employment pass, work permit or other valid ID issued by the Singapore Ministry of Manpower

Medical benefit documents, if applicable:

- Insurance card (no direct billing to insurance company)
- Insurer's or employer's guarantee letter
(if the bill is covered by your employer)

Consent

Your consent for the procedure will be obtained from you on the day of the procedure.

Discharge Care

- You will be observed for around 15 - 30 minutes after the procedure and discharged only when you are deemed suitable.
- You may not need a family member or friend to accompany you home on the day itself.
- Further instructions specific to your condition and treatment will be provided on the day of the procedure.

