

Wearing an artificial prosthesis held by adhesive

Prosthesis Clinic

Information for Patients

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Introduction

You have had a silicone prosthesis made which is held in place by a form of glue (adhesive).

Placing your adhesive held prosthesis correctly can take a bit of practice at first. Trained staff at the Prosthesis Clinic (a prosthetist), will show you how to attach your prosthesis at your fitting appointment.

How to fit your prosthesis

Before you start:

- before touching or handling your prosthesis always wash your hands with soap and water.
- lay down some paper towels to protect your work surface in case you spill some of the adhesive.
- before applying the adhesive, make sure the surface of your prosthesis and your skin is free of adhesive, grease and debris.

To begin with practice finding the right position without using any adhesive, in front of a mirror. Once you feel sure you have the right location, you can then try with some adhesive.

**Health information and support is available at www.nhs.uk
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

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To give feedback about this information sheet, contact InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

For water based adhesive:

Carefully apply the adhesive to the centre of the prosthesis, avoiding the fine edges. You may find it useful to use a small brush to apply it.

Leave the prosthesis to stand for 2 to 3 minutes allowing the adhesive to turn from white to clear.

For solvent based adhesive:

Carefully apply the adhesive to the centre of the prosthesis, avoiding the fine edges. Use sparingly, a little goes a long way. You may find it useful to use a small brush to apply it.

Leave for 2 to 3 minutes to allow the surface to become tacky.

It is essential to allow time for your skin to breathe every day, so it is advised not sleep in your prosthesis.

The process of attaching your prosthesis will eventually become easier as you become more confident.

How to remove your prosthesis

For water based adhesive:

To remove the prosthesis, carefully lift the edge; it is best to choose an edge at the thickest part of the prosthesis to avoid tearing the silicone. Gently ease the prosthesis away from your skin.

You will need to remove the adhesive from your prosthesis. It is best removed while dry so avoid wetting the prosthesis at this stage. Using your thumbs to rub the adhesive will cause it to 'ball' on the surface and can then be lifted away.

Finally, wash your skin with soap and warm water.

For solvent based adhesive:

To remove the prosthesis, carefully lift the edge using a cotton bud soaked in adhesive remover. Using a rolling motion, work your way around and under the fitting surface, gently lifting the prosthesis away from your skin as you go around.

Remove any remaining adhesive from the surface of the prosthesis using the adhesive remover.

Finally, wash your skin with soap and warm water.

Where should I keep my prosthesis when I'm not wearing it?

Make sure that your prosthesis is clean and dry before storing it.

Store in a dry box away from direct sunlight and heat sources. Sunlight can affect the colour of the silicone and heat (such as from radiators) can cause the fine edges of the prosthesis to curl.

Will I have any follow-up appointments?

As long as you continue to wear your adhesive held prosthesis, you will continue to have review appointments with your clinician to monitor the prosthesis every year.

How long will my prosthesis last?

Adhesive held prostheses can vary in life span due to many factors. Your prosthetist will be able to advise you when they think you are in need of a new one.

Are there any side-effects from wearing a prosthesis?

Sometimes people have a slight reaction to the adhesives. If the area becomes red or sore, stop using the adhesive and contact the clinic.


What should I do if I have a problem?

If you have any problems with your prosthesis, please contact the service on the telephone numbers below for help and advice (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5.30pm):

Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery: 0116 258 5671

Maxillofacial Laboratory/ Prosthesis Clinic: 0116 258 5255

If you have any questions, write them down here to remind you what to ask:

The logo for Prosthesis Clinic is a circular emblem. The top half of the circle is a white skull, and the bottom half is a black silhouette of a human face. The word "Prosthesis" is written in a serif font, arching over the top of the circle. The word "clinic" is written in a smaller, lowercase serif font, arching under the bottom of the circle.

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔
على هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل

જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu

If you would like this information in another language or format such as EasyRead or Braille, please telephone 0116 250 2959 or email equality@uhl-tr.nhs.uk