

Surgery for buried canine teeth

Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

Information for Patients

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Why do we uncover buried (impacted) teeth?

We all should have 4 permanent (adult) canine teeth. These grow between ages 11 to 13 years. Sometimes, 1 or more of these teeth grow in the wrong place. Or lose their way and get stuck (impacted) against the roots of nearby teeth. It can also get stuck in the roof of the mouth (palate). It can sometimes cause damage to the teeth around it and may need to be taken out.

If the tooth is in the wrong place, your orthodontist may need it to be uncovered to try and guide it into place with braces. This is because you need your canine teeth. You and your orthodontist will agree on the best treatment plan. The Maxillofacial team will explain the surgical treatment to you.

What happens during the surgery?

The surgery is a small procedure. We often do it under general anaesthetic (you will be asleep). We may sometimes do it using local anaesthetic. This means you will be awake and your mouth will be numb. This depends on the position of the tooth and the method you want to use. The surgery can take up to 1 hour to do.

1. After giving you local or general anaesthetic, the surgeon will move the gum aside in the area of the tooth. They remove a small amount of bone to uncover the tooth.
2. They will then attach a small gold bracket to the tooth. A small chain on the bracket is stitched onto the gums. This will stay in place until you see your orthodontist. **You must book a follow-up appointment with your orthodontist as soon as you know your surgery date. Your appointment must be for 2 weeks after your surgery.**

In some cases, the tooth is just uncovered, and a pack is used to keep the gums from covering the tooth. **You must still book a follow-up appointment with the orthodontist as soon as possible after surgery. It is your responsibility to do this.**

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

Visit www.uhleicester.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact uhl-tr.informationforpatientsmailbox@nhs.net

Possible risks and side effects

- **Small bleeding:** You may have a little bit of blood oozing in the first 24 hours (1 day). This bleeding will come and go, staining your saliva red. This is normal. If you have bleeding that will not stop, or mouth filling up with blood, bite firmly on a moistened tightly rolled gauze pad or clean handkerchief for 20 minutes. If the heavy bleeding continues, get medical advice, **call 111** or go to the Emergency Department.
- **Pain or discomfort:** This can feel mild to moderate.
- **Stitches:** You may have stitches. These will dissolve between 2 days to 2 weeks. Keep the wound clean. The stitches will go on their own.
- **Infection:** If you have a bad taste in the mouth, or increasing pain that does not get better with pain medication, please see your dentist or call the department for advice. You may need antibiotics.
- **Damage to nearby teeth:** This risk is low. Your surgeon will talk about this with you in more detail at the consultation. You will often need to see your dentist if this happens to fix it.
- **Gold chain coming off:** The gold chain **may** fall off from the tooth or the gums. If this happens contact the department or your orthodontist as soon as possible to re-attach it.
- **Numbness:** You may have temporary or permanent numbness of the gums in the surgery area. This risk is low and often temporary.
- **More surgery:** You may need more surgery to remove the buried tooth. This is if the tooth does not move into place as expected. Your orthodontist will talk about this with you.

Do I have to have this surgery?

You do not have to have this surgery. But it is often needed if you plan on having braces to straighten your teeth. Most orthodontic treatment is successful. You should talk to your orthodontist about how successful this treatment can be for you. We will give you more information about aftercare before you go home.

If you have any issues after surgery, please contact the department during office hours on 0116 258 5671 or 0116 258 5301 or your Dental practice for advice.

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

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