



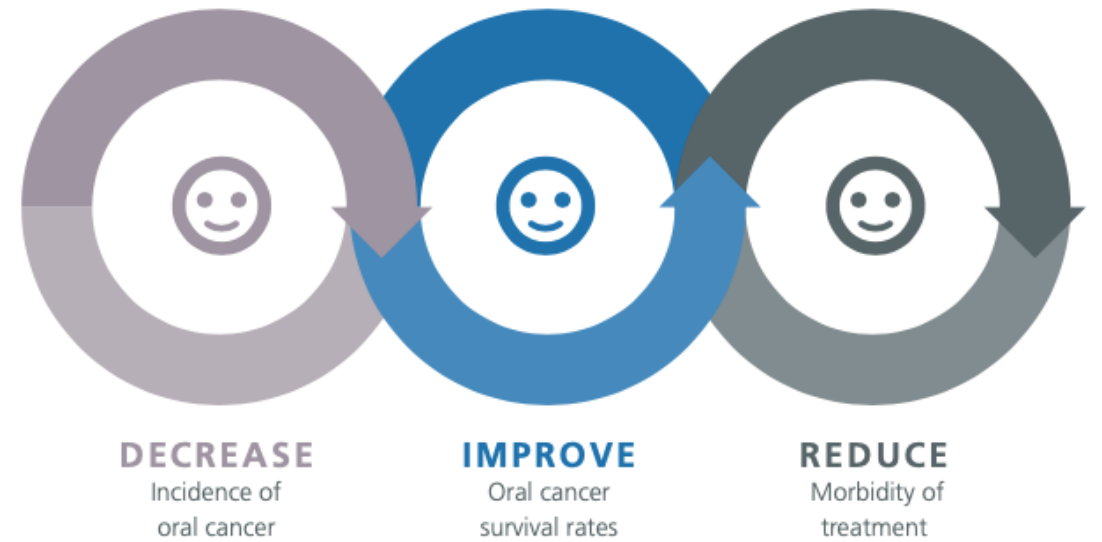
Managing Patients Oral Cancer Journey

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Dental Network

Head and Neck Symposium
4th November 2022

Guide

1. Prevention
2. Early detection
3. Referral
4. Patient support
5. Dental care during cancer journey
6. Living with cancer



Oral/Mouth Cancer

8722 new cases in the UK each year
2700+ lives lost to mouth cancer
Affects 650,000 per year worldwide

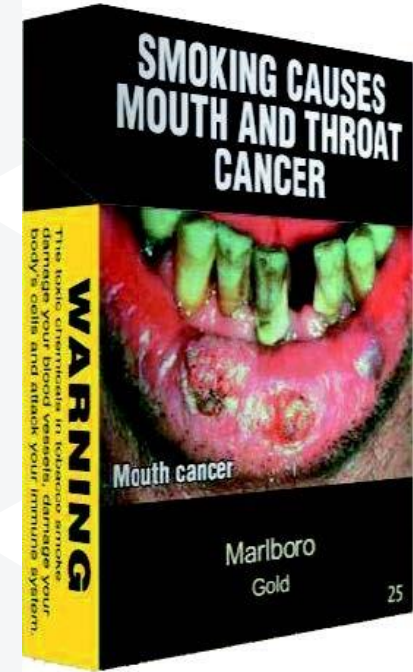
**Mouth cancer foundation



Prevention

Risk Factors

- TOBACCO
- Alcohol
- Poor Diet
- Social Deprivation
- HPV – could become main factor within the next decade
- Exposure to sun – lips and face
- See the Dentist +/- GP



Early Detection

- Ulcer/White/Red patch doesn't heal within 3 weeks
- Lump/swelling persist more than 3 weeks
- Difficulty swallowing/chewing
- Numbness tongue/mouth
- Feeling of something caught in throat
- Pain in the ear
- Unexplained loosening of teeth



Referral

FOR LESIONS HIGHLY SUSPICIOUS OF CANCER – ONLY – URGENT 2 WEEK PATHWAY

Age of Patient in years:	Patient's Title & Name:	Sex	Date of Birth (DD/MM/YY) / /
Patient's Address:			
Patient's Town or City:		Preferred Contact No:	Patient's Postcode
Referrer's Name:	Practice Postcode:	Date of Decision to refer / /	Interpreter required? YES / NO Language?
Practice Name and Address:			Practice Phone Number:
GDC Number:	URGENT CARE REQUIRED – TWO WEEK PATHWAY		URN: NOT REQUIRED – DO NOT SUBMIT TO RMC
Patient's GP Name and Address including Postcode:			

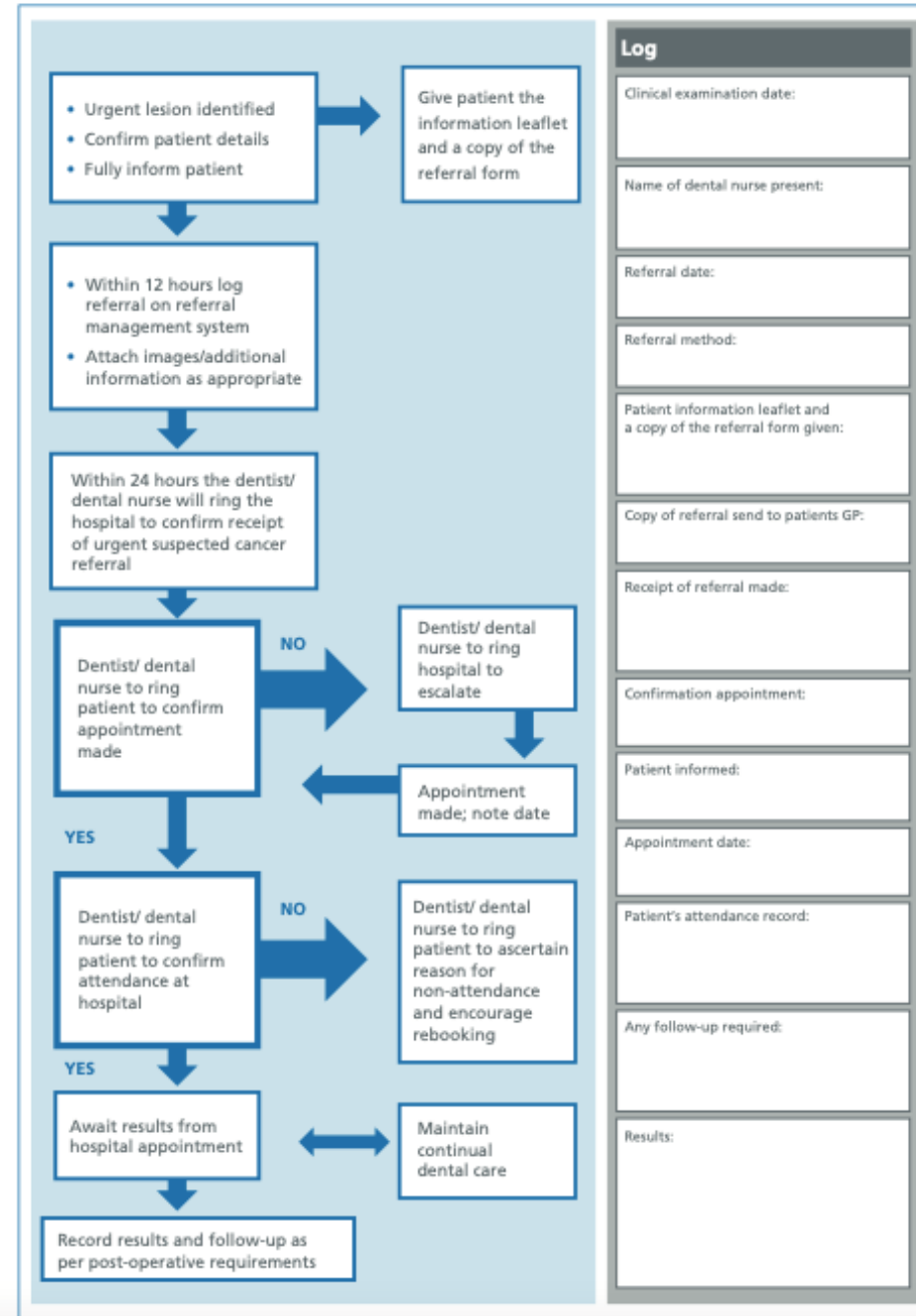
<p>CANCER AREA SUSPECTED</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ORAL CAVITY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PHARYNX</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> THYROID</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> LARYNX</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NECK / LYMPH NODES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> EAR</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NOSE</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:</p>	<p>RISK FACTORS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> POOR DIET</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SMOKER</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ALCOHOL</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PREVIOUS H&N CANCER</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PAAN CHEWING</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PREVIOUS RADIOTHERAPY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> IMMUNOSUPPRESSED</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> HIV/AIDS</p>
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<p>SYMPTOMS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PAIN ON SWALLOWING</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> MOUTH ULCER</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> UNILATERAL DEAFNESS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> TRISMUS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SORE THROAT</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PERSISTENT HOARSENESS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NASAL OBSTRUCTION / DISCHARGE</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> LUMP IN NECK (PLEASE DESCRIBE ON DIAGRAM)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> BLEEDING</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> CRANIAL NERVE LESION</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ORBITAL MASS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> OTALGIA (EAR ACHE)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ORAL SWELLING</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (DETAILS BELOW)</p>
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Referral Flowchart

Figure 1. Good practice urgent referral flowchart and log:



Patient support

Cancer treatments, surgery, radiotherapy to the mouth and chemo affect the mouth & dental care

Dental teams will provide care for some patients with oral cancer and others may need to be seen in secondary care

Some patients will need dental treatment before their cancer treatment begins

Often care during cancer treatment involves managing symptoms and any infections

There are long-term care needs for patients who have had surgery and radiotherapy



Complications

Short term risks:

- Pain & mucositis
- Dry mouth (xerostomia)
- Infection
- Functional issues (difficulty opening, swallowing etc)
- Bleeding
- Neurotoxicity

Longer term risks:

- Dry Mouth
- Dental caries
- Trismus (difficulty opening mouth)
- Functional issues
- Osteonecrosis (dead bone)



Dental Care During Cancer Journey

- An assessment,
- Removal of teeth that are likely to cause sepsis
- Stabilising other teeth and periodontal condition
- Advice on mouthcare during treatment
- Dietary advice on caries prevention
- Prescribe high fluoride toothpaste 5000 ppm in patients at increased risk of caries
- Saliva replacement if patient has a dry mouth

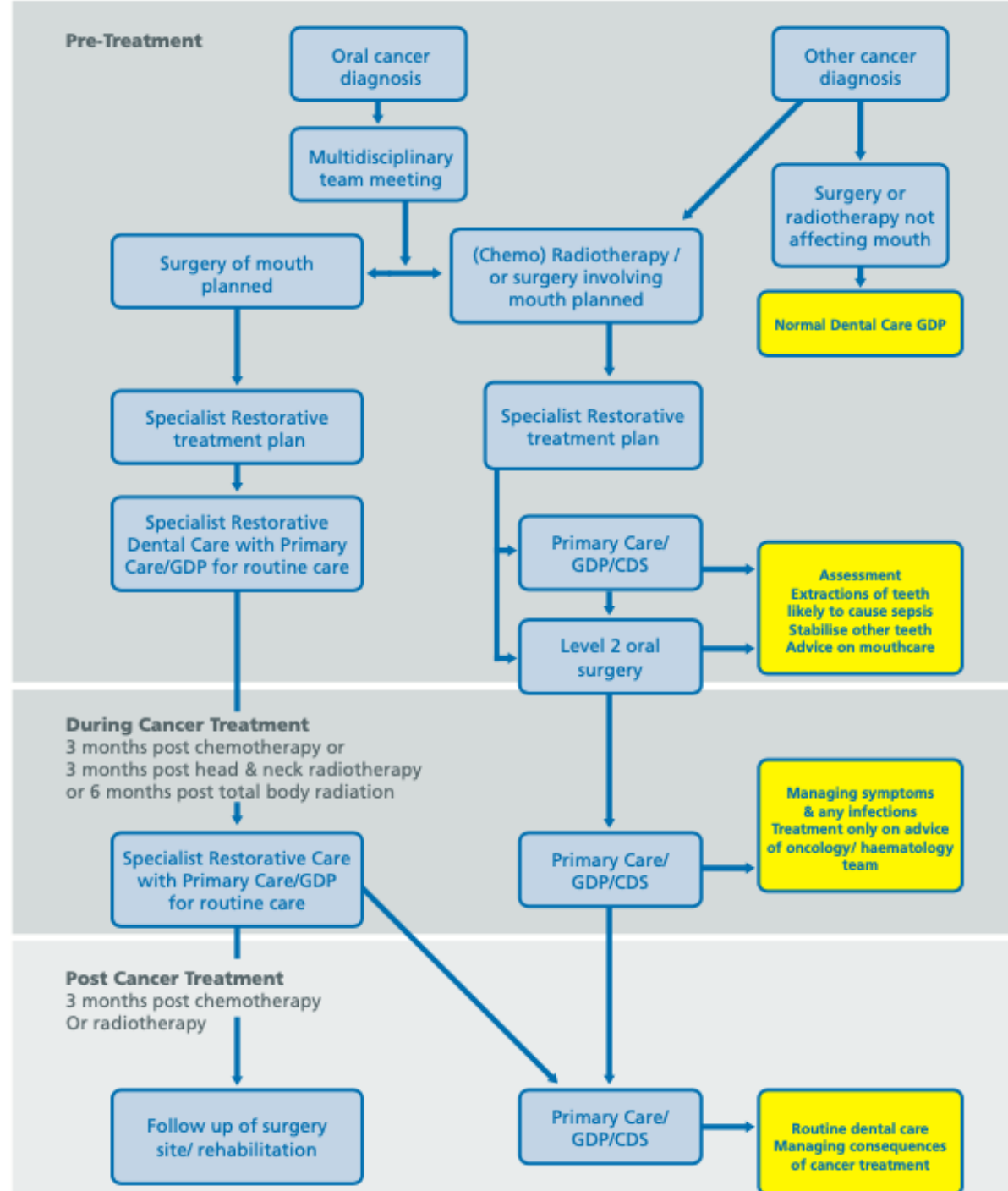


Dental Care Post-Treatment

- Oral cancer screening- to check for any signs of recurrence
- Continue fluoride therapy, reinforce prevention
- Monitor dental pathology, tooth mobility
- Monitor for osteonecrosis
- Monitor for trismus



Dental Care Summary



Living with Cancer

Dental teams have an important role to play in care of patients:

- Listening to patients and taking on board their views.
- Engaging patients in their dental care and providing choices and tailored care- e.g. recall intervals.
- Knowing what cancer support services are available in your local area.
- Supporting patients to be physically active, stop smoking and eat well and signposting patients to these services as needed
- Checking with patients about their eligibility for free dental care and signposting them to Macmillan Cancer support or citizens advice who may be able to help with healthcare costs.
- Providing a dental check and operative treatment were possible prior to any treatment that increases these risks
- Prescribe proactive preventive care- fluoride varnish and high fluoride toothpaste.
- Being alert to recurrence or spread, particularly in the oral cavity by continuing to visually screen patients for oral cancer as part of routine care.



Oral Cancer Guide

<https://gmpcb.org.uk/dentistry/dentistry-resources/#Toolkits>

Look out for the refresh in 2023!!!



@GM_Cancer | Managing Patients Oral
Cancer Journey

GMCA GREATER
MANCHESTER
COMBINED
AUTHORITY



in Greater Manchester



Oral Cancer Care

Local Guide

prevention - early-detection - referral - care

Advice and guidance for the primary dental care team



Supported by
Cancer Research UK Facilitators

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Cheshire and Merseyside Local Dental Network

First Edition | Spring 2019

**Greater
Manchester
Cancer**

Oral Cancer Excellence Award

Has achieved the
**Greater Manchester
ORAL CANCER EXCELLENCE
AWARD**

To achieve this award:

- Clinical team members have read & familiarised themselves with the GM LDN Oral cancer guide
- At least one dentist and one team member have attended the HEE oral cancer course
- Clinical team to complete online training: 'Carrying out a head and neck exam'
- Clinical team to familiarise themselves with online referral system.
- The practice undertakes to see patients with cancer needing an urgent assessment prior to cancer treatment.
- Practice staff will participate in a facilitated team meeting to:
 - Increase knowledge related to the local oral cancer good practice guide
 - Disseminate learning from training
 - Implement this team action plan to enable tools from within the good practice guides to become embedded within the daily routine of the practice protocols

Mohsan Ahmad

Dr Mohsan Ahmad, Chair of Greater Manchester's Local Dental Network,
NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care





Questions?