

# **About your local anaesthetic appointment**

**Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery &  
Orthodontic Outpatient Department**

**East Block Out-Patients  
Cheltenham General Hospital**

The purpose of this leaflet is to explain the appointment and some commonly asked questions. If you have any further questions please contact the Maxillofacial and Orthodontic Outpatient Department on 08454 223194.

## What is local anaesthetic?

A local anaesthetic is a small injection in the mouth or on the face to numb the area .

## How long will it take?

This depends on what is to be carried out. Some procedures take 20 minute others take up to 60 minutes.

## What if I can't attend my appointment?

Please phone our reception desk on 08454 113194 as soon as possible so that we can assign you with an alternative appointment. It is important you do this as soon as possible so that we can offer your slot to another patient.

## Can I eat and drink as usual?

Please make sure you have something to eat and drink just before you come in to your appointment in the outpatients department.

## Can I take my medicine?

Unless otherwise stated at you initial appointment, take your medication as normal.

- a. If you are a Diabetic, please ask for an early or mid session appointment and take your medication and diet as normal.
- b. If taking **Warfarin** you will have been given a blood test form during your previous planning appointment. Go straight to West Block Outpatients Department 1 hour before your appointment time on the day of your treatment to have your I.N.R. levels checked. You should then come to our department, book in and await the results of your blood test before we can proceed.
- c. If you are required to take **antibiotics** or **steroids** prior to your treatment it is necessary for you to book in an hour before treatment to receive the appropriate medication.
- d. If you take **Warfarin** and require **antibiotics** or **steroids** before the procedure there will be a 2 hour wait before we can safely proceed. In the 1st hour you will have a blood test to check your I.N.R. If your I.N.R. result is within normal limits you will then be given the antibiotics or steroids 1 hour before the commencement of your procedure.

- e. You may, on leaving the department be given a prescription. This is for you to take to your local pharmacy for dispensing and take as instructed.

## Will I be fit to drive?

This depends on the individual, it is often a good idea to get a friend or family member to escort you, to wait with you and perhaps drive you home.

## Will I need time of work?

This depends on the procedure and your occupation. Usually having the day of the procedure off is sufficient, but discuss this with the Clinician who will be treating you.

## Musical therapy

We do have a facility to play music which may help you relax. Please bring in your favourite C.D.

## If you have any further questions

Please contact the department between 09:00- 17:00 on 08454 223194.

## Out of hours

For urgent enquiries outside of normal hours please ring 08454 222222 and ask for the Oral Maxillo-Facial SHO on call.