

Urgent Student Clinic (USC)- School of Dentistry

Overview

Urgent Student Clinic is an undergraduate dental teaching clinic, and provides dental students with experience in diagnosis and treatment of urgent dental problems.

Qualified dental practitioners supervise all treatment.

The clinic operates Mon – Friday 09.00 -17.00 hrs during the QUB academic term times. Details of term dates will be included in an automated reply to your referral email- see below. It is anticipated that appointments will be offered within 1-2 working days from telephone triage. This is NOT a walk-in service so please do not advise patient to attend School of Dentistry without an appointment.

Patient Source

General Dental Practices. Unregistered dental patients may contact a local practice seeking treatment for an urgent dental issue. Please see criteria below. If the dental practice has insufficient capacity to register and treat such a patient, it may provide redirection to the USC.

How to Redirect

1. Establish that the patient is in pain and meets USC criteria.
2. Advise the patient that your practice cannot provide assistance.
3. Offer redirection to URGENT STUDENT CLINIC. Advise the patient that dental students will provide assessment and treatment under direct supervision by a registered dentist.
4. Collect patient details using the template below.
5. Send by email using a HSC secure email address to: UrgentStudentClinic@belfasttrust.hscni.net

Process

USC triage team will access email referrals Mon – Fri. Telephone triage will be completed for each patient. Patients meeting criteria for treatment will be offered an appointment in the School of Dentistry.

✓ USC will accept:	✗ USC will <u>NOT</u> accept:
Adult patients with urgent dental pain who are unregistered with a GDP	Patients with an active registration with a General Dental Practitioner
	Patients under the age of 16 years
Urgent issues may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dental and soft-tissue infections - Moderate or severe dental and facial pain that cannot be controlled by the patient - Fractured tooth with pulpal exposure 	Patients with emergency dental issues- Trauma, Spreading Dental Infection and Uncontrolled Bleeding . These patients must be referred to On-call Oral Surgery/ Oral Maxillofacial services or your local Emergency Department as per your usual practice.
	Patients with non-urgent dental issues. Non-urgent issues include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Non-acute or chronic dental pain - Loose or displaced fillings, crowns, bridges or veneers - Fractured or loose-fitting dentures and other appliances - Bleeding gums - Incomplete routine dental treatment

Urgent Student Clinic (USC) Referral Form

Complete and return by email to: urgentstudentclinic@belfasttrust.hscni.net

Patient Name/ Title		
DoB (16yrs minimum age)		
H&C (if known)		
GMP		
Patient contact number 1		
Patient contact number 2		
Patient Postcode		
Name of Referring Dentist and Practice		
Need for Interpreter Services? State language		
Confirmation that patient meets USC criteria	Un-registered with GDP?	
	Urgent dental complaint? (see guidance list)	