Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

HARLEY STREET SPECIALIST HOSPITAL LONDON

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Welcome to the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery at Harley Street Specialist Hospital

Expert-led centre of excellence for conditions of the mouth, jaw, face, and teeth.

The Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery at Harley Street Specialist Hospital is the first dedicated department in UK private practice bringing together leading global experts in maxillofacial and oral surgery. The team also includes an oral medicine consultant and reconstructive dentist so we can treat the whole spectrum of conditions affecting the mouth, jaw, face, and teeth.

The department uniquely offers interconnected specialist facilities from consulting rooms, diagnostic tools, CBCT (cone beam computed tomography) and operating theatre within the entire first floor of the hospital. This means a patient’s complete treatment journey can take place in one location: from the initial consultation through to diagnostics and treatment.

Referring dentists and GPs also have the peace of mind of knowing that their patients will have access to a team of specialists who work together on complex cases.

We welcome patients with private medical insurance or those wishing to pay for their own treatment.
State-of-the-art diagnostic technology combined with the latest surgical techniques

The Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery treats the entire range of conditions of the jaw, mouth, face and teeth including TMJ disorders, the surgical removal of wisdom teeth, jaw cyst or tumour removal, mouth cancer screening, orthognathic surgery (jaw reconstruction), aesthetics and facial surgery and dental implants.

The latest state-of-the-art diagnostic technology includes CBCT (cone beam computed tomography), which captures multiple images from different angles giving consultants a 3D view of a patient’s head and neck to make the most accurate diagnosis.

Piezoelectric bone surgery, which is technology based on the high frequency vibration of a metallic tip used to selectively cut bone while sparing surrounding soft tissues, enables consultants to be even more precise when cutting bone, and offers patients a quicker recovery.

The team also have access to on-site 3D printing which is used for planning complex facial reconstruction and correcting facial deformity.

Planning model for titanium TMJ replacement
Our Consultants

The Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery brings together a group of leading oral and maxillofacial specialists dedicated to providing the highest standards of patient care.

Our consultants have extensive experience in their respective fields and most are trained in both dentistry and medicine. They offer rapid assessment, diagnosis, and access to the latest surgical treatments all under one roof. Their expertise is shared within the department so you can be confident you will have the best treatment for your condition.

Oral & Maxillofacial Consultants

Mr Luke Cascarini
Consultant Oral Maxillofacial Surgeon and Chief of Service at Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
FRCS (OMFS), MRCS, FDSRCS, MBChB, BDS

Chief of Service of the Department, Mr Cascarini is one of the few UK consultants to offer temporomandibular joint (TMJ) replacement and arthroscopic TMJ surgery and the only UK surgeon using regenerative treatments for the jaw. He also performed the UK’s first total lower jaw replacement using a computer-designed titanium implant.

Mr Mustansir Alibhai
Consultant Oral, Maxillofacial and Head & Neck Surgeon
BDS, MFDS, MBBS, MRCS, FRCS(OMFS)

A consultant at Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Trust, Mr Alibhai has a particular interest in jaw tumours and reconstruction; cancers of the face, mouth, jaw and neck; microsurgical facial reconstruction; benign oral lesions; salivary gland tumours and stones; facial trauma; temporomandibular joint pain (TMJ), and oral and dentoalveolar surgery.
Miss Natasha Berridge

Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon
BSc, BDS, BM, MFDS, MRCS, FRCS (OMFS), MSc

Sub-specialty interests of Miss Berridge include skin cancers, facial deformity and reconstructive aesthetic surgery. She has a Masters’ Degree (MSc) in Aesthetic Medicine and Skin Ageing with Merit from The University of Manchester where she also received the Outstanding Achievement Award.

Mr Darryl Coombes

Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon
MBBS, BDS, FRCS (OMFS), FDSRCS (Eng)

Mr Coombes has an international reputation in the fields of facial, head and neck, plastic, cosmetic and reconstructive surgery worldwide. He performs and trains other surgeons in a wide range of specialties including rhinoplasty and head and neck skin cancer.

Mr Spencer Hodges

Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon
BDS, FDSRCS (Eng), MBBS (Hons) FRCS (OMFS)

Mr Hodges has a special interest in the aesthetics of maxillofacial surgery, including correcting facial deformity and reconstructing faces following skin cancer removal and trauma to the face. He is a core member of the skin cancer multidisciplinary team at King’s College Hospital, London.
Mr Deepak Komath

Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon
FRCS (OMFS), MRCS (Eng), FDSRCS (Eng), MDS, BDS, MB

Mr Komath specialises in facial surgery: facelifts and eyelid rejuvenation, facial deformity correction, head and neck reconstruction following cancer or trauma, skin cancer surgery and also undertakes oral surgery, temporomandibular joint (TMJ) surgery, tooth extraction and dental implants.

Mr Ravinder Pabla

Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon
BSc, BDS, MFDS, MBBS, MRCS, FRCS (OMFS)

Mr Pabla treats a wide spectrum of disorders including managing misplaced, buried or missing teeth; wisdom teeth; mouth and tongue problems; the management of facial disproportion and deformity; surgical management of skin cancer and salivary gland disease, and jaw joint disorders.

Mr Tamer Theodossy

Consultant Oral Surgeon
BDS, MSc (OMFS), MFDSRCS (Eng)

Mr Theodossy deals with the entire remit of oral surgery. His specialist interests include surgical removal of wisdom teeth; facial deformity; temporomandibular joint (TMJ) disorders; oral implants and bone grafting; sinus lifts; oral/facial trauma, and treatment for facial pain, oral lumps and bumps, ulcerations and white patches.
Dr Barbara Carey

Consultant in Oral Medicine
MB, BCh, BAO, BDS, NUI, BA, FDS (OM), RCSi, FFDRCSI (Oral Medicine), FHEA

Dr Carey is a consultant in Oral Medicine at Guy’s Hospital, London and specialises in oral dermatology, providing specialist care for patients with severe mucocutaneous diseases - conditions that cause blistering in the mouth and include pemphigus, pemphigoid and lichen planus.

Dr Balika Reddy

Restorative dentist
BDS

Dr Reddy is a General Dental Practitioner with a keen interest in all aspects of aesthetic dentistry focusing on implant restorations. She has been an educational supervisor for foundation dentists for the Oxford deanery, which involved mentoring recently graduated UK dentists.
Aesthetics and facial surgery

The Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery offers a full range of both non-surgical facial aesthetic procedures and facial surgery.

Facial aesthetic treatments
Treatments involve injections which are used to block nerve signals to muscles to relax facial expressions or to define and accentuate facial contours.

Hyaluronic acid facial fillers (dermal fillers)
Hyaluronic acid is a clear gel, which is injected to restore lost volume to your face, smooth lines and wrinkles, model your profile or enlarge your lips. It is injected with a fine needle in small quantities under the skin. It can make your skin look and feel more supple without changing your natural appearance.

Anti-wrinkle injections
Injections can be used to relax the muscles in the face which create fine lines and wrinkles and prevent any further deepening of lines between the eyebrows (frown lines), wrinkles around the eyes (crow’s feet), horizontal creases in the forehead and lines at the corners of the mouth. Injections can also be used to smooth the neck and to treat facial pain as a result of facial muscle spasms.

Facial surgery options include:
- Rhinoplasty
- Chin surgery
- Facial disproportion (orthognathic surgery)
- Eyelid rejuvenation (blepharoplasty)
- Face lift
- Structural surgery for the imbalanced aging face
- Reconstructive facial surgery

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Dental implants and bone grafts

A dental implant is an artificial tooth root. It is a small titanium screw which is fitted directly into the bone in your jaw. The implant is a foundation for artificial teeth or bridges. Over time the jawbone will fuse with the implant so it’s fixed strongly in place. This is called osseointegration.

Dental implants can be necessary if you’ve lost a tooth or teeth from decay or trauma. They have many benefits, including creating a solid structure which is integrated with your bone and permanent stability. For example, dental implants are stronger than bridges which are secured to surrounding teeth.

Dental implants can be used to replace missing teeth (one tooth with a single crown, two or more teeth with a bridge) or to support dentures.

If you don’t have enough bone to support an implant, you may need to have a bone augmentation procedure such as a sinus lift to build bone. Most augmentation procedures involve bone grafts which add bone to the jaw and provide a firm base for the implant.
Wisdom teeth

If your wisdom teeth easily fit into your mouth and there are no problems, they are functional teeth and help you chew food. However, many people have at least one impacted wisdom tooth. This can be trapped under your gums or only partly erupted. Because wisdom teeth occur after your jaw has stopped growing, there may not be enough room for them.

Impacted wisdom teeth which cause pain, damage to other teeth or other dental problems are usually removed. If they don’t have enough room, they can harm nearby teeth, the jawbone and nerves. They are also hard to clean and can become infected which could lead to pain and cysts.

If wisdom tooth extraction is required, it is elevated away from the gum using special instruments rather than being pulled out.

The gum around the tooth may need to be cut and lifted away from the tooth. The tooth may also be cut into smaller pieces and in some cases a small amount of bone may be removed from around the tooth using a tiny surgical drill.

If your surgeon feels there is a risk of injury to the inferior dental nerve, he may recommend a coronectomy, where the crown of the tooth is removed but the roots are left in place.
Jaw joint/TMJ disorders

TMJ (or temporomandibular joint) disorders occur when your TMJ can’t open and close your jaw smoothly. This could be due to a problem with the joint, the cartilage or in the muscles which move the joint. Osteoarthritis can also affect the jaw joint and is caused when the cartilage around the joint becomes worn or damaged which results in inflammation and pain. Many people with TMJ disorders grind or clench their teeth, which is known as bruxism.

The symptoms of TMJ disorder include:

- The jaw clicking when it’s moved
- The jaw feeling as if it has got stuck
- Restricted jaw movement, for example, not being able to yawn
- Pain coming from the jaw joint or moving into the cheek, temple and ear or into the lower jaw and neck
- Problems with the ear including ringing in the ears (tinnitus), dizziness or pain

TMJ disorders can often be easily treated without medical or surgical intervention. If further intervention is required, you may be a candidate for BMAC (Bone Marrow Aspirate Concentrate), where bone marrow from your hip is injected into your jaw, harnessing the power of the body to heal itself.

In some cases, you may need surgery to treat your condition. This could involve a jaw joint arthroscopy, TMJ open surgery or in more complex cases, jaw joint replacement.
Orthognathic surgery

A jaw discrepancy can develop without a specific reason, or it could be linked to hereditary factors.

Most people who have discrepancies between their jaw size and position can have orthodontic treatment to manage their poorly aligned teeth and bite. However, if you have a large discrepancy between the size of the jaws in relation to each other, or if the jaws are abnormally positioned in relation to the base of the skull, you may need orthognathic surgery which is also known as corrective jaw surgery.

Orthognathic surgery can help the jaw to function properly, create a more attractive appearance and reduce psychological stress. Most of the procedure takes place inside the mouth so scarring is kept to a minimum.

It may take several months to prepare for orthognathic surgery as you will need to have orthodontic treatment to correct any teeth misalignment to allow the jaws to be placed in the correct position. Our consultants work as part of a specialist team of orthodontists and prosthodontists to manage jaw discrepancies using the latest computer design and technology.
Oral medicine

Oral medicine is concerned with the oral health care of patients with chronic, recurrent and medically related disorders of the oral and maxillofacial region not relating to teeth and jaw. Your symptoms may often be chronic and may have a significant psychological, as well as physical impact on your quality of life.

You may be referred to our oral medicine consultant for:
- Frequent or very painful mouth ulcers
- Dermatological conditions affecting your mouth
- Oral pain
- Very dry mouth (xerostomia)
- When you need a biopsy of your mouth to check for cancer
- If you have been diagnosed with osteoradionecrosis (bone death resulting from radiation treatment for cancer)
- Severe lichen planus, lupus erythematosus, hypersensitivity reactions and lichenoid reactions
- Blistering conditions — pemphigoid and pemphigus
- Diseases that involve the mouth and other parts of the gastrointestinal tract, such as Crohn’s, coeliac disease and nutritional deficiency states
- Orofacial granulomatosis
- Infectious diseases, viral and fungal infections
- White and red patches in the mouth where there is either oral dysplasia or cancer
- Non-dental facial pain
- Burning mouth syndrome
- Trigeminal neuralgia, idiopathic facial pain
- Adverse side effects of drugs and other materials on the mouth