Direct Access Hygienist Appointments

Patient Information

Thank you for your interest in Direct Access Hygienist appointments at Passage House Dental Care. Please read the following information. We hope it answers all of your questions. If not, please ask a member of our team who will be able to help you.

What is Direct Access?

Usually to access a hygienist appointment you would have to be referred to the hygienist by a dentist. It is now possible for patients at Passage House Dental Care, and people who are not patients, to access a hygienist at the practice without prior referral by a dentist – this is called ‘Direct Access’. You can simply call, email or drop into reception and book a hygienist appointment.

Please note:
The hygienist cannot provide the same comprehensive dental examination as your dentist. You should continue to see your dentist as usual. Your dentist will let you know how frequently you need to have a full dental examination. At your hygienist appointments you will be advised how often you should see the hygienist in between your full dentist visits. You will need to sign a consent form before your initial Direct Access appointment. Direct Access appointments are paid for at time of booking.

Our team

Dentists
Dentists train for five years in all aspects of theoretical and practical dentistry and often undertake additional qualifications after their professional registration. They are clinical professionals who understand and take responsibility for the overall oral health of the patients of their practice. The following dentists work at our practice:

- Dr Brad Hall BDS DPDS MSc (Dental Implantology) GDC No. 74310
- Dr Tony Vallance BDS GDC No 51348
- Dr Alex McCullagh BDS MFDS RCS (Ed) GDC No 77682
- Dr Adam Gardiner BDS DPDS GDC No 83691
- Dr Amelia Jerreat BDS MFDS MSc (Orth) MOrth Forth GDC No 73307
- Dr Kate Leeming BDS MFDS RCS (Ed) GDC No 228268
- Dr Rebecca Gilliland BDS GDC No 265041

Dental hygienists
Dental hygienists train for two to three years in dental schools alongside dentists, or in schools of dental hygiene. They are trained to carry out clinical examinations, assessing the health of gums, provide preventive oral care and liaise with dentists over the treatment of decay and gum disease, undertake scaling, provide topical fluoride treatments and carry out oral cancer screening. The following hygienist work at our practice:

- Samantha Cawsey Dip Dent Therapy (Newcastle) GDC No 166309
Dental therapists
Dental therapists usually train for three years alongside dentists in dental schools. They can provide the same treatments as dental hygienists as well as fillings and some extractions. The following therapist work at our practice:

- Samantha Cawsey Dip Dent Therapy (Newcastle) GDC No 166309

Dental nurses
Dental nurses train for 12 to 24 months and provide support to dentists, hygienists, therapists and patients. They prepare and maintain the clinical environment, carry out infection prevention and control procedures, prepare and mix dental materials, process dental X-rays and provide chairside support to dentists, hygienists and therapists.

Further information about what each member of the team is trained to do is available in the General Dental Council's publication Scope of practice (visit www.gdc-uk.org).

Price list and cancellation fees

For existing patients at Passage House Dental Care:
An initial direct access appointment with our dental hygienist is 30 minutes long. The fee is £56*. Payable at time of booking.

For people who are not patients at Passage House Dental Care:
An initial direct access appointment with our dental hygienist is 40 minutes long. The fee is £80. Payable at time of booking.

If further appointments are required with the hygienist the fees are payable at time of booking and are:
- 20 minutes £39*
- 30 minutes £56*
- 40 minutes £75*
- 60 minutes £110*

Please refer to our price list displayed in reception. (*Fees can change, these are correct as of Dec 2016)

Cancellation fee
The fee for direct access appointments will be payable on booking the appointment. A full refund will be given if the appointment is cancelled with 48 hours’ notice. 50% refund with 24 hours’ notice and no refund if the appointment is cancelled with less than 24 hours’ notice or the patient fails to attend.

At Passage House Dental Care we offer excellent general dentistry, dental implants, sedation for anxious patients, orthodontics for adults and children amongst other treatments which can be found on our website: www.passagehousedental.co.uk