



## Your wisdom teeth removal procedure

Your wisdom teeth removal procedure is usually straightforward, needing just a small incision in your gum over or around the tooth to allow us to extract the tooth and any bone which has grown over it.

Your wisdom teeth can be removed under a local anaesthetic or for anxious patients, with IV sedation or sleep dentistry. In more complex cases, we may recommend your wisdom teeth be removed under a general anaesthetic with an oral surgeon that we would refer you to. Depending on your situation you may need one or more stitches.

After your procedure we advise you to rest for a few days. You may experience some swelling and mild discomfort, which can usually be treated with over-the-counter pain medication. We also recommend you eat only soft food for several days, to allow your mouth to heal.



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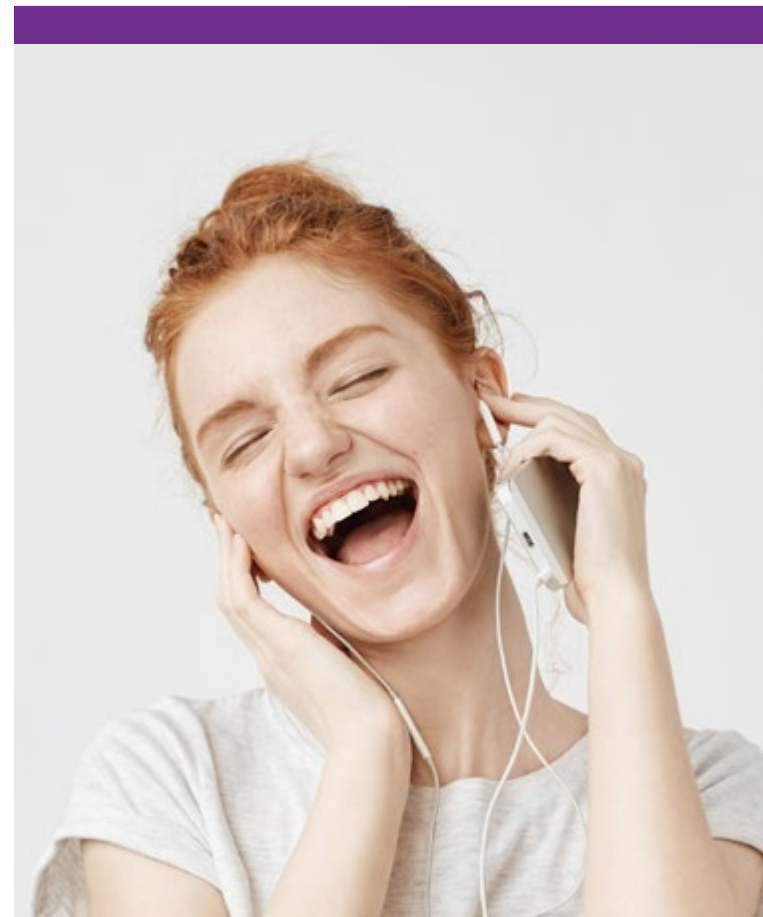
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## WISDOM TEETH



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## Get wise and treat those impacted or sore wisdom teeth

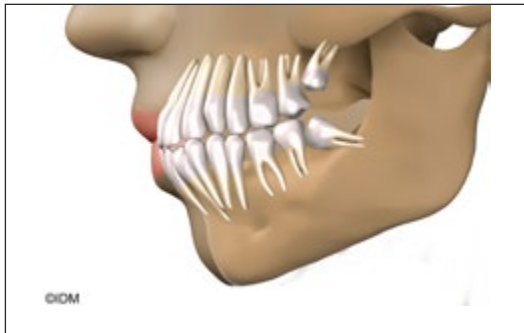
Over the years, there has been much advancement in modern dental techniques and materials which has led to an extensive Wisdom teeth, the very last teeth to emerge in your jaw, may become a problem as they erupt and develop in each corner of your mouth. If your wisdom teeth do not have enough room to erupt freely, or if an infection is a constant occurrence, extraction may be the best solution.

Not all problem wisdom teeth will cause pain and swelling to indicate a problem. We recommend attending regular oral health checks with us so that we can monitor the development of your wisdom teeth and prescribe an appropriate treatment.

Some wisdom teeth can be simply removed under local anaesthesia, while impacted (trapped) teeth will often require minor surgery to remove the tooth from the surrounding bone and gum. Depending on your situation, surgery may be performed under local or general anaesthesia.



### Wisdom teeth removal



Every patient will have a different experience with their wisdom teeth. You may naturally have as many as four wisdom teeth or none at all. Some do not cause any problems when they emerge, while others can commonly cause a range of complications. If this is your situation, the best solution may be to have your wisdom teeth removed.

The main complication which can occur is when your wisdom teeth become impacted, or trapped below the gum line due to erupting at an angle. Impacted wisdom teeth can cause damage to your gums, jawbone and other adjacent teeth.

To best understand your situation, we will conduct a thorough examination including detailed x-rays, which will enable us to see the exact position of your wisdom teeth below the gum line and subsequently develop the most appropriate course of treatment for you.

Because it is impossible to predict if your wisdom teeth will cause problems, we often recommend taking a preventive approach. Extraction earlier rather than later is best, because removal in older patients can often be more difficult due to increased bone density around the tooth, and require a longer recovery period.

### Potential wisdom teeth problems

If left untreated, impacted wisdom teeth can cause a number of problems for your mouth. A common problem is infection of the gums, which can be painful and occasionally very serious. Wisdom teeth that have partially erupted through the gums are most likely to be affected, which is why we recommend extraction before they become infected. This helps in fewer healing complications.

Another potential problem is the 'pocket' which can form between wisdom teeth and your adjacent tooth, in which bacteria builds up, causing tooth decay and bad breath. Impacted wisdom teeth can also cause development of a cyst, which can severely damage your jawbone.

If you're considering orthodontic treatment, it's a good idea to have your wisdom teeth removed beforehand, to prevent their development pushing other teeth out of alignment. If you suffer from gum disease or another infection, we will treat this first before your wisdom teeth are removed to reduce the risk of infection spreading.