



## **Patient Complaints Procedure**

It is our aim to always have satisfied patients, to meet your expectations of care and service and to resolve any complaints as efficiently, effectively and politely as possible. We take complaints very seriously, we investigate them in a full and fair way and take great care to protect your confidentiality. We learn from complaints to improve our care and service. We will never discriminate against patients who have made a complaint.

If you are not entirely satisfied with any aspect of our care or service please let us know as soon as possible to allow us to address your concerns promptly.

Sally Sinclair is the Complaints Manager and will be your personal contact to assist you with any complaints. If your verbal complaint is not resolved to your satisfaction within 24 hours or if you complain in writing, the Complaints Manager will acknowledge it in writing within 3 working days and will aim to provide a full response in writing as soon as practical.

If the Complaints Manager is unavailable, we will take brief details about the complaint and will arrange for them to contact you as soon as the person is next available. We will keep comprehensive and confidential records of your complaint, which will be stored securely and only be accessible to those who need to know about your complaint.

If the complaint investigation takes longer than anticipated the Complaints Manager will keep you informed of the reason for the delay, the progress of the investigation and the proposed date it will be completed.

When the investigation has been completed, you will be informed of its outcome in writing and invited to discuss the results and any practical solutions that we can offer to you.

We regularly analyse patient complaints to learn from them and to improve our services. That's why we always welcome your feedback, comments and suggestions. If you are dissatisfied with our response to a complaint you can take it further, please see the contacts below.

### **Contacts**

For private dental treatment you can contact the GDC private dental complaints service within 12 months of the treatment or within 12 months of becoming aware of the issue by calling 020 8253 0800 or visiting [www.dentalcomplaints.org.uk](http://www.dentalcomplaints.org.uk)

The General Dental Council is responsible for regulating all dental professionals. You can complain using their online form at [www.gdc-uk.org](http://www.gdc-uk.org) contact them on [information@gdc-org.uk](mailto:information@gdc-org.uk) or by calling 020 7167 6000.