

15th December 2015

To: All General Dental Practitioners:
HMR, Bury, Oldham, Tameside, Manchester

Dear Colleague

Re: Pennine Acute Orthodontic Services – North Manchester

I am writing to keep you informed of developments regarding Orthodontic Dental Services provided by Pennine Acute at the North Manchester General Hospital site.

In order to manage current pressures facing these services and to reduce existing waiting times for patients, the Hospital will not be receiving routine referrals for Orthodontics until further notice.

We are working with the Trust to address the combination of factors which have developed and we are confident that normal services will be resumed as soon as possible.

In order to alleviate the pressures and support the arrangements it would be appreciated if you could ensure that the advice and guidance notes accessible on the referral management service website are followed using the link below:

<https://www.dental-referrals.org/dentists/orthodontic-assessments-greater-manchester/>

This link directs you to the Orthodontic page where you will find a variety of useful resources including guidance and electronic referral forms.

For the time being, when referring patients for Orthodontic services, please advise them that it will not be possible for them to be seen at North Manchester General Hospital.

The referral management service has been informed of the situation and will direct referrals for Orthodontic dental care to the nearest available location according to patient postcode unless you refer to a specific provider in accordance with patient choice.

Please be assured that all patient referrals received prior to 15th December 2015 will be processed and seen for treatment as soon as possible. However, it should be noted that this may be by an alternative provider at a different location.

Please don't forget that you are able to track your patients' journey via the referral management service by using the Unique Reference Number (URN) on the referral form.

If you have any patient specific queries on referrals sat with North Manchester General Hospital, please contact Rachel Scott, Directorate Manager at Pennine Acute on 0161 627 8635.

We will keep you informed of the situation as it progresses. In the meantime, your patience and support whilst these matters are addressed is much appreciated.

We will keep you informed by way of regular correspondence regarding the situation.

Kind regards

Lindsey Bowes
Senior Contracts Manager - Dental

Copy: FDS Referral Management Service
Rachel Scott, Directorate Manager, Pennine Acute
Steven Shimberg, Chair, West Pennine Local Dental Committee
Stuart Allen, Secretary, West Pennine Local Dental Committee
Khalid Mushtaq, Chair, Bury & HMR Local Dental Committee
Tariq Drabu, Secretary, Bury & HMR Local Dental Committee
North East Sector CCG Chief Operating Officers