

To: All Dental Patients

Dear Patient

We recognise that NHS patients can now receive the full range of NHS treatments. **However, dental practices have not returned to business as usual.**

Current restrictions mean that the number of available patient appointments will be far lower than they were pre-COVID.

Additionally, as patients have not been seen for routine care for the past 15 months, all practices have a huge challenge in attending to the backlog of treatment. Consequently, patients will be prioritised based on their oral health needs. Once this challenging period has been overcome, we hope to be able to return to some normality with regards to the availability of appointments. However, we do not foresee this being possible for many months.

Please be reassured that everyone in your practice is working extremely hard to provide the care you need. They have the same frustrations about this situation as you, and are doing their utmost during these really difficult times.

Emergency and urgent care will continue to be the main priority. Dental services across NHS Forth Valley are always here for patients who really need them. Please contact your registered dentist if you need to be seen as an emergency for; pain, infection, trauma, or any worrying patch in the mouth.

Yours sincerely,
Dental Management Team
Ocean Drive Dental Care

