

COMMUNITY DENTAL SERVICE

ROLE OF THE CARER

1. Ensure that on the day of the appointment you are not responsible for anyone else (dependant adult or children). If the patient has dependants please make sure alternative arrangement have also been made for their care.
2. Please check that the patient sticks to the fasting times given on the appointment letter. Can we also ask that you do not bring food or drink onto the ward, you will be able get refreshments once the patient is in Theatre.
3. **DO NOT** drive the patient home by yourself. You **MUST** be accompanied by another adult if travelling home by car or arrange to travel home by taxi. The patient will not be allowed to travel on public transport or on foot. It is usually better to have someone drop you off and pick you up when ready.
4. Once home allow the patient to rest, either on their bed or the sofa, propped up with pillows or cushions. **DO NOT** leave the patient for more than 10 minutes at a time, occasionally check the patient to see if they are still responsive. **YOU MUST** stay within calling distance of the patient for 24-48 hours after their operation.
5. After surgery, to prevent dehydration, make sure the patient drinks regularly (drinks should be cold or warm **NOT HOT**). You may also offer them plain, soft foods but avoid any big heavy meals.
6. Please carefully read the leaflet '**Information for patients who have had general anaesthetic for dental treatment**' for more information on what the patient should and shouldn't do following their surgery. This leaflet will be provided on the day of the appointment.
7. If you have any further questions or concerns about caring for the patient, before or after their general anaesthetic appointment, please contact a member of our Adult GA team at Middleton Health Centre on the number below.