

# The effect of referral guidelines on referrals for secondary dental care

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		<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 23/01/2004	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 01/12/2009	<b>Condition category</b> Oral Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

**Plain English summary of protocol**  
Not provided at time of registration

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

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## Additional identifiers

**Protocol serial number**  
PSI02-20

## Study information

**Scientific Title**

**Study objectives**

This study was designed to discover whether it is possible to develop guidelines which are acceptable General Dental Practitioners (GDPs), for the referral of patients for orthodontic treatment and whether the guidelines have an effect on the number of appropriate referrals made. The guidelines were drawn up by a panel of clinicians providing secondary care, and GDPs from the Local Dental Committees using evidence derived from a literature search.

**Ethics approval required**

Old ethics approval format

**Ethics approval(s)**

Not provided at time of registration

**Study design**

Randomised controlled trial

**Primary study design**

Interventional

**Study type(s)**

Other

**Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Oral health/stomatognathic diseases

**Interventions**

General dental practices in Manchester and Stockport were allocated to one of two groups. One group received guidelines for the referral of patients to secondary orthodontic care, and the other did not receive any guidelines. Dissemination of the guidelines was intended to be carried out at a series of meetings with GDPs but acceptance for these was very low. Dissemination was carried out by post with follow up correspondence.

**Intervention Type**

Other

**Phase**

Not Applicable

**Primary outcome(s)**

The main outcome measure was whether the referral was appropriate according to the guidelines that had been developed. This information came from a form completed by the clinician at the initial visit by the referred patient, and gave detailed information on the reason for the referral being appropriate or inappropriate. Questionnaires were also given to all GPs receiving the guidelines to ascertain their opinions about the content, usefulness etc of the guidelines.

**Key secondary outcome(s)**

Not provided at time of registration

**Completion date**

31/03/1998

## Eligibility

### Key inclusion criteria

All referrals by GPs in the two groups were included in the study. Information on these was collected from five hospitals in Manchester and Stockport, and from three specialist orthodontic practitioners and one community orthodontist.

### Participant type(s)

Patient

### Healthy volunteers allowed

No

### Age group

Other

### Sex

All

### Key exclusion criteria

Does not match inclusion criteria

### Date of first enrolment

01/04/1995

### Date of final enrolment

31/03/1998

## Locations

### Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

### Study participating centre

Orthodontic Department

Manchester

United Kingdom

M15 6FH

## Sponsor information

## Organisation

Record Provided by the NHS R&D 'Time-Limited' National Programme Register - Department of Health (UK)

## Funder(s)

### Funder type

Government

### Funder Name

NHS Primary and Secondary Care Interface National Research and Development Programme (UK)

## Results and Publications

### Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

### IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration

### Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
<a href="#">Results article</a>	results	08/04/2000		Yes	No