



How to report a concern about a dentist or dental worker



EasyRead version

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Who are we

General Dental Council

We are the General Dental Council.



We check all dentists and other dental workers in the United Kingdom.

Angela Brown
Charles Dodd
Edward Finch
George Harris
Ian Jones
Kevin Lines
Michelle Newman
Olivia Patrick

We keep lists of them all. These are called registers.

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All dentists and dental workers need to be on one of our lists to be allowed to do dental work in the United Kingdom.



This includes:

- dentists



And other dental workers:

- dental nurses who help dentists do their work



- orthodontic therapists who do some dental work a dentist has asked for



- dental hygienists who help keep your teeth clean and mouth healthy



- dental therapists who do some dental work a dentist has asked for



- dental technicians who make all sorts of false teeth a dentist has asked for



- clinical dental technicians who can help with false teeth.

What we do



Our main job is to make sure people are safe and feel safe when visiting the dentist or other dental workers.



We do this by:

- keeping lists of dentists and dental workers allowed to work in the United Kingdom



- setting standards for dentists and dental workers



- looking into serious concerns about dentists and dental workers



- making sure the training for student dentists and dental workers is good



- making sure dentists and dental workers keep up to date with learning.



This is all set out in law.



It is against the law to work as a dentist or any sort of dental worker if you are not on one of our lists.



You can look at who is on our lists on our website.

www.gdc-uk.org/searchregister



There are links to the internet in this leaflet. They are not in EasyRead.



If you do not use the internet or need any help please see the support section at the end of this leaflet.

Concerns about dentists or dental workers

If you are worried that a dentist or dental worker is not doing their job properly you can:



- make a complaint to the person themselves if you feel you can



- make a complaint to the dental practice using their complaint rules. Ask the dental practice how to do this



- if you visited an NHS dentist or dental worker, use the NHS complaint rules. Ask the dental practice for a copy



- ask us to look into it if it is more serious.



There are rules about how a dental practice deals with complaints. You can find out more about them here: www.gdc-uk.org/complaint

Here at the General Dental Council, we will look into more serious concerns when someone is:



1. causing harm to patients



2. causing harm to people they work with or other members of the public



3. making people worry about those who work in dentistry.



Compensation

We cannot help with getting any compensation for something that has gone wrong.



You will need to get your own legal help for this, see the list of who can help here: www.gdc-uk.org/organisations

How to raise a concern



If you think your concern is serious and fits into one of the three reasons above then please do tell us.



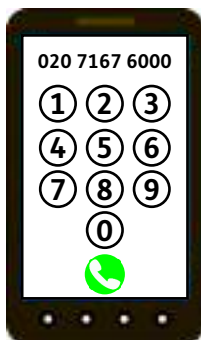
If you use the internet, please click here:
www.gdc-uk.org/complaints



Support

If you need support to do this you can ask:

- a friend or relative to help, as long as you agree they can



- call us on **020 7167 6000**



- get in touch with one of these organisations. Click on the right one for where you live:

- If you live in England, contact your local **Healthwatch**



- If you live in Scotland, contact your local **Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance**



- If you live in Wales, contact your local **Advocacy Support Cymru**



- If you live in Northern Ireland, contact the **Patient and Client Council**.

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