



The Regulation and  
Quality Improvement  
Authority

Abercorn Dental Care Limited  
RQIA ID: 11353  
16 Newry Road  
Banbridge  
BT32 3HN

Inspector: Jo Browne  
Inspection ID: IN022542

Tel: 028 4062 4881

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**Announced Care Inspection  
of  
Abercorn Dental Care Limited**

**19 June 2015**

The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority  
9th Floor Riverside Tower, 5 Lanyon Place, Belfast, BT1 3BT  
Tel: 028 9051 7500 Fax: 028 9051 7501 Web: [www.rqia.org.uk](http://www.rqia.org.uk)

## 1. Summary of Inspection

An announced care inspection took place on 19 June 2015 from 10.00 to 11.15. Overall on the day of the inspection the management of medical emergencies and recruitment and selection were found to be safe, effective and compassionate. The outcome of the inspection found no areas of concern.

This inspection was underpinned by The Independent Health Care Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005, The Regulation and Improvement Authority (Independent Health Care) (Fees and Frequency of Inspections ) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011, The DHSSPS Minimum Standards for Dental Care and Treatment (2011), Resuscitation Council (UK) guidelines on quality standards for cardiopulmonary resuscitation practice and training in primary dental care (November 2013), Resuscitation Council (UK) guidelines on minimum equipment list for cardiopulmonary resuscitation in primary dental care (November 2013), and the British National Formulary (BNF) guidelines on medical emergencies in dental practice.

### 1.1 Actions/Enforcement Taken Following the Last Care Inspection

There were no actions required to be taken following the last care inspection on 10 October 2014.

### 1.2 Actions/Enforcement Resulting from this Inspection

Enforcement action did not result from the findings of this inspection.

### 1.3 Inspection Outcome

	Requirements	Recommendations
<b>Total number of requirements and recommendations made at this inspection</b>	0	0

This inspection resulted in no requirements or recommendations being made. Findings of the inspection can be found in the main body of the report.

## 2. Service Details

<b>Registered Organisation/Registered Person:</b> Ms Joan Lockhart	<b>Registered Manager:</b> Ms Joan Lockhart
<b>Person in Charge of the Practice at the Time of Inspection:</b> Ms Joan Lockhart	<b>Date Manager Registered:</b> 10 January 2012
<b>Categories of Care:</b> Independent Hospital (IH) – Dental Treatment	<b>Number of Registered Dental Chairs:</b> One

### **3. Inspection Focus**

The themes for the 2015/16 year are as follows:

- Medical and other emergencies; and
- Recruitment and selection

### **4. Methods/Process**

Specific methods/processes used in this inspection include the following:

Prior to inspection the following records were analysed: staffing information, patient consultation report, and complaints declaration.

During the inspection the inspector met with Ms Joan Lockhart, registered person and two dental nurses.

The following records were examined during the inspection: relevant policies and procedures, training records, one staff personnel file, job description, contract of employment, and four patient medical histories.

### **5. The Inspection**

#### **5.1 Review of Requirements and Recommendations from the Previous Inspection**

The previous inspection of the practice was an announced care inspection dated 10 October 2014. No requirements or recommendations were made during this inspection.

#### **5.2 Review of Requirements and Recommendations from the last Care Inspection dated 10 October 2104**

As above.

#### **5.3 Medical and Other Emergencies**

##### **Is Care Safe?**

Review of training records and discussion with Ms Lockhart and staff confirmed that the management of medical emergencies is included in the induction programme and training is updated on an annual basis, in keeping with the General Dental Council (GDC) Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements.

Discussion with Ms Lockhart and staff confirmed that they were knowledgeable regarding the arrangements for managing a medical emergency and the location of medical emergency medicines and equipment.

Review of medical emergency arrangements evidenced that emergency medicines are provided in keeping with the British National Formulary (BNF), and that the majority of emergency equipment as recommended by the Resuscitation Council (UK) guidelines is retained in the practice. Ms Lockhart advised that the oropharyngeal airways had been removed from their emergency equipment kit by their basic life support trainer. To ensure that the practice meets with Resuscitation Council (UK) minimum guidelines it was agreed that new airways would be purchased. Confirmation of the order was forwarded to RQIA following the inspection. Ms Lockhart also agreed to discuss this matter with the company providing their training to ensure the advice given is in line with best practice guidance.

There is no automated external defibrillator (AED) on the premises however arrangements are in place to contact a medical practice within very close proximity of the premises in the event of a medical emergency. The medical practice will send the AED and a medical practitioner to the dental practice. Ms Lockhart has discussed and agreed this with her professional indemnity insurer.

A robust system is in place to ensure that emergency medicines and equipment do not exceed their expiry date. There is an identified individual within the practice with responsibility for checking emergency medicines and equipment.

Discussion with staff and review of documentation demonstrated that recording and reviewing patients' medical histories is given high priority in this practice.

On the day of the inspection the arrangements for managing a medical emergency were found to be safe.

### **Is Care Effective?**

The practice had a policy for the management of medical emergencies. The policy was amended during the inspection to include reporting notifiable events to RQIA; in line with best practice guidance. Protocols are available for staff reference outlining the local procedure for dealing with the various medical emergencies.

Discussion with Ms Lockhart and staff demonstrated that they have a good understanding of the actions to be taken in the event of a medical emergency and the practice policies and procedures.

Discussion with staff confirmed that there have been no medical emergencies in the practice since the previous inspection.

On the day of the inspection the arrangements for managing a medical emergency were found to be effective.

### **Is Care Compassionate?**

Review of standard working practices demonstrated that the management of medical and other emergencies incorporate the core values of privacy, dignity and respect.

During discussion staff demonstrated a good knowledge and understanding of the core values that underpins all care and treatment in the practice.

On the day of the inspection the arrangements for managing a medical emergency were found to be compassionate.

### Areas for Improvement

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection.

<b>Number of Requirements:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Number of Recommendations:</b>	<b>0</b>
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## 5.4 Recruitment and Selection

### Is Care Safe?

There was a recruitment policy and procedure available. The policy was comprehensive and reflected best practice guidance.

The practice has employed one new staff member since registration with RQIA; this staff member's personnel file was reviewed. The following was noted;

- positive proof of identity, including a recent photograph;
- evidence that an enhanced AccessNI check was received prior to commencement of employment;
- two written references;
- details of full employment history, including an explanation of any gaps in employment;
- documentary evidence of qualifications, where applicable;
- evidence of current GDC registration, where applicable;
- criminal conviction declaration on application;
- confirmation that the person is physically and mentally fit to fulfil their duties; and
- evidence of professional indemnity insurance, where applicable.

A staff register was retained containing staff details including, name, date of birth, position; dates of employment; and details of professional qualifications and professional registration with the GDC, where applicable.

Ms Lockhart confirmed that a robust system is in place to review the professional indemnity status of registered dental professionals who require individual professional indemnity cover. A review of a sample of records demonstrated that the appropriate indemnity cover is in place.

On the day of the inspection, recruitment and selection procedures were found to be safe.

### Is Care Effective?

The dental service's recruitment and selection procedures comply with all relevant legislation including checks to ensure qualifications, registrations and references are bona fide.

One personnel file was reviewed. It was noted that the file included a contract of employment/agreement and job description.

Induction programme templates are in place relevant to specific roles within the practice. A sample of one evidenced that induction programmes are completed when new staff join the practice.

Discussion with Mrs Lockhart and staff confirmed that staff have been provided with a job description, contract of employment/agreement and have received induction training when they commenced work in the practice.

Discussion with staff confirmed that they are aware of their roles and responsibilities.

Clinical staff spoken with confirmed that they have current GDC registration and that they adhere to GDC CPD requirements.

On the day of the inspection recruitment and selection procedures were found to be effective.

### **Is Care Compassionate?**

Review of recruitment and selection procedures demonstrated good practice in line with legislative requirements.

Recruitment and selection procedures, including obtaining an enhanced AccessNI check, minimise the opportunity for unsuitable people to be recruited in the practice.

Discussion with staff demonstrated that they have a good knowledge and understanding of the GDC Standards for the Dental Team and the Scope of Practice.

Discussion with staff demonstrated that the core values of privacy, dignity, respect and patient choice are understood.

On the day of the inspection recruitment and selection procedures were found to be compassionate.

### **Areas for Improvement**

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection.

<b>Number of Requirements:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Number of Recommendations:</b>	<b>0</b>
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## **5.5 Additional Areas Examined**

### **5.5.1 Staff Consultation/Questionnaires**

During the course of the inspection, the inspector spoke with Ms Joan Lockhart, registered person and two dental nurses. Staff spoke very positively regarding their employment at Abercorn Dental Care Limited. Questionnaires were also provided to staff prior to the inspection by the practice on behalf of the RQIA. Four were returned to RQIA within the timescale required.

Review of submitted questionnaires and discussion with staff evidenced that they were provided with a job description and contract of employment/agreement on commencing work in the practice. Staff also confirmed that induction programmes are in place for new staff which

includes the management of medical emergencies. Staff confirmed that annual training is provided on the management of medical emergencies.

### **5.5.2 Complaints**

It is not in the remit of RQIA to investigate complaints made by or on the behalf of individuals, as this is the responsibility of the providers. However, if there is considered to be a breach of regulation as stated in The Independent Health Care Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005, RQIA has a responsibility to review the issues through inspection.

A complaints questionnaire was forwarded by the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA) to the practice for completion. The evidence provided in the returned questionnaire indicated that no complaints have been received by the practice from 1 January 2014 to 31 March 2015.

### **5.5.3 Patient Consultation**

The need for consultation with patients is outlined in The Independent Health Care Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005, Regulation 17 (3) and The Minimum Standards for Dental Care and Treatment 2011, Standard 9. A patient consultation questionnaire was forwarded by the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA) to the practice for completion. A copy of the most recent patient satisfaction report was submitted to RQIA prior to the inspection.

Review of the most recent patient satisfaction report demonstrated that the practice pro-actively seeks the views of patients about the quality of treatment and other services provided. Patient feedback whether constructive or critical, is used by the practice to improve, as appropriate.

No requirements or recommendations resulted from this inspection.

I agree with the content of the report.

Registered Manager	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date Completed	30/6/15
Registered Person	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date Approved	30/6/15
RQIA Inspector Assessing Response	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date Approved	02/07/15

Please provide any additional comments or observations you may wish to make below:

*\*Please complete in full and returned to [independent.healthcare@rqia.org.uk](mailto:independent.healthcare@rqia.org.uk) from the authorised email address\**

It should be noted that this inspection report should not be regarded as a comprehensive review of all strengths and weaknesses that exist in the practice. The findings set out are only those which came to the attention of RQIA during the course of this inspection. The findings contained within this report do not absolve the registered person(s) from their responsibility for maintaining compliance with minimum standards and regulations.