

Announced Follow-Up Care Inspection Report 2 January 2020



Affinity Dental Care

Type of Service: Independent Hospital (IH) – Dental Treatment

Address: 112 Moss Road, Lambeg, Lisburn, BT27 4NU

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Inspector: Steven Smith

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Assurance, Challenge and Improvement in Health and Social Care

It should be noted that this inspection report should not be regarded as a comprehensive review of all strengths and areas for improvement that exist in the service. The findings reported on are those which came to the attention of RQIA during the course of this inspection. The findings contained within this report do not exempt the service from their responsibility for maintaining compliance with legislation, standards and best practice.

1.0 What we look for



In respect of dental practices for the 2019/20 inspection year we are moving to a more focused, shorter inspection which will concentrate on the following key patient safety areas:

- management of medical emergencies
- arrangements in respect of conscious sedation, if applicable
- infection prevention and control
- decontamination of reusable dental instruments
- radiology and radiation safety
- management of complaints
- regulation 26 visits, if applicable
- review of areas for improvement from the last inspection, if applicable

2.0 Profile of service

This is a registered dental practice with three registered places.

3.0 Service details

Organisation/Registered Provider: Harmony Dencare Limited Responsible Individual: Ms Rachel Emerson	Registered Manager: Ms Rachel Emerson
Person in charge at the time of inspection: Ms Rachel Emerson	Date manager registered: 28 April 2016
Categories of care: Independent Hospital (IH) – Dental Treatment	Number of registered places: 3

4.0 Inspection summary

An announced follow-up care inspection took place on 2 January 2020 from 10:00 to 11:00. Arrangements in respect of conscious sedation were not inspected by RQIA during the initial announced care inspection on 30 April 2019. A further inspection was conducted to address this outstanding key patient safety area.

This inspection was underpinned by The Health and Personal Social Services (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003, 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 and the Department of Health (DoH) Minimum Standards for Dental Care and Treatment (2011).

During the inspection the inspector met with Ms Rachel Emerson, responsible individual. A tour of some areas of the premises was also undertaken.

The following area was examined during the inspection:

- Conscious sedation

4.1 Inspection outcome

	Regulations	Standards
Total number of areas for improvement	0	0

This inspection resulted in no areas for improvement being identified. Findings of the inspection were discussed with Ms Emerson, responsible individual, as part of the inspection process and can be found in the main body of the report.

5.0 The inspection

5.1 Review of areas for improvement from the most recent inspection dated 30 April 2019

The most recent inspection of the establishment was an announced care inspection. No areas for improvement were made during this inspection.

5.2 Inspection findings

5.3 Conscious sedation

Conscious sedation

Conscious sedation helps reduce anxiety, discomfort and pain during certain procedures. This is accomplished with medications and (sometimes) local anaesthesia to induce relaxation.

Ms Emerson confirmed that conscious sedation is provided in the form of inhalation sedation, known as relative analgesia (RA), by two dentists in the practice. The practice does not offer oral sedation or intravenous (IV) sedation to patients.

A policy and procedure in relation to the management of conscious sedation is in place. Review of the environment and equipment evidenced that conscious sedation is being managed in keeping with Conscious Sedation in The Provision of Dental Care (2003).

Review of care records evidenced that the justification for using sedation, consent for treatment; pre, peri and post clinical observations were recorded. Information was available for patients in respect of the treatment provided and aftercare arrangements.

Ms Emerson confirmed that all members of the dental team providing treatment under conscious sedation have received appropriate supervised theoretical, practical and clinical training before undertaking independent practice in keeping with best practice. Ms Emerson confirmed that conscious sedation refresher training, in accordance with best practice, has been planned for some members of the dental team who require it.

A review of records and discussion with Ms Emerson confirmed that the RA equipment has been serviced in keeping with manufacturer's instructions.

Review of the sedation policy and discussion with Ms Emerson confirmed that a nitrous oxide risk assessment had been completed to identify the risks and control measures required in keeping with the Northern Ireland Adverse Incident Centre (NIAIC) alert NIA-2017-001 issued on 6 September 2017.

Areas of good practice

A review of arrangements in respect of conscious sedation evidenced that all dental practitioners are providing conscious sedation treatments in keeping with best practice guidance.

Areas for improvement

No areas for improvement were identified during the inspection.

	Regulations	Standards
Areas for improvement	0	0

6.0 Quality improvement plan

There were no areas for improvement identified during this inspection, and a quality improvement plan (QIP) is not required or included, as part of this inspection report.



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