

McDaid Dental Care Ltd

Chilwelldp

Inspection Report

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Overall summary

We carried out this announced inspection on 19 June 2019 under Section 60 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 as part of our regulatory functions. We planned the inspection to check whether the registered provider was meeting the legal requirements in the Health and Social Care Act 2008 and associated regulations. The inspection was led by a CQC inspector who was supported by a specialist dental adviser.

To get to the heart of patients' experiences of care and treatment, we always ask the following five questions:

- Is it safe?
- Is it effective?
- Is it caring?
- Is it responsive to people's needs?
- Is it well-led?

These questions form the framework for the areas we look at during the inspection.

Our findings were:

Are services safe?

We found that this practice was providing safe care in accordance with the relevant regulations.

Are services effective?

We found that this practice was providing effective care in accordance with the relevant regulations.

Are services caring?

We found that this practice was providing caring services in accordance with the relevant regulations.

Are services responsive?

We found that this practice was providing responsive care in accordance with the relevant regulations.

Are services well-led?

We found that this practice was providing well-led care in accordance with the relevant regulations.

Background

Chilwell Dental Practice is in the Beeston area of Nottingham. The practice provides both NHS and private dental treatment to adults and children. This report relates to the private dentistry carried out at the practice. We have produced a separate report relating to the NHS dentistry.

There is level access through the front door, and room for patients who hold a blue badge to park at the front of the practice. The practice has four treatment rooms, one is located on the ground floor.

Summary of findings

The dental team includes four dentists, one dental hygiene therapist, seven dental nurses, including three trainee dental nurses and the practice manager, two patient co-ordinators and one practice support manager.

The practice is owned by a limited company and as a condition of registration must have a person registered with the Care Quality Commission as the registered manager. Registered managers have legal responsibility for meeting the requirements in the Health and Social Care Act 2008 and associated regulations about how the practice is run. The registered manager at Chilwell Dental Practice is the principal dentist.

On the day of inspection, we collected 20 CQC comment cards filled in by patients and spoke with two others in the practice.

During the inspection we spoke with three dentists, the hygiene therapist and four dental nurses including the practice manager. We looked at practice policies and procedures and other records about how the service is managed.

The practice is open: Monday: from 8.30am to 6pm, Tuesday: from 8.30am to 7pm, Wednesday: from 8.30am to 6pm, Thursday: from 8.30am to 7pm, Friday: from 8.30am to 6pm and Saturday: by appointment.

Our key findings were:

- The practice appeared clean and well maintained.
- The provider had infection control procedures which reflected published guidance.
- Staff knew how to deal with emergencies. Appropriate medicines and life-saving equipment were available.
- The practice had systems to help them manage risk to patients and staff.
- The provider had suitable safeguarding processes and staff knew their responsibilities for safeguarding vulnerable adults and children.
- The provider had the staff recruitment information required by the Regulations.
- The clinical staff provided patients' care and treatment in line with current guidelines.
- Staff treated patients with dignity and respect and took care to protect their privacy and personal information.
- Staff were providing preventive care and supporting patients to ensure better oral health.
- The appointment system took account of patients' needs.
- Staff felt involved and supported and worked well as a team.
- The provider asked staff and patients for feedback about the services they provided.
- The provider dealt with complaints positively and efficiently.
- The provider had suitable information governance arrangements.

Summary of findings

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Are services safe?

We found that this practice was providing safe care in accordance with the relevant regulations.

The practice had systems and processes to provide safe care and treatment. They used learning from incidents and complaints to help them improve.

Staff received training in safeguarding people and knew how to recognise the signs of abuse and how to report concerns.

Staff were qualified for their roles and the practice completed most of the essential recruitment checks.

Premises and equipment were clean and properly maintained. The practice followed national guidance for cleaning, sterilising and storing dental instruments.

The practice had suitable arrangements for dealing with medical and other emergencies.

No action



Are services effective?

We found that this practice was providing effective care in accordance with the relevant regulations.

The dentists assessed patients' needs and provided care and treatment in line with recognised guidance. Patients described the treatment they received as excellent, professional and reassuring. The dentists discussed treatment with patients, so they could give informed consent and recorded this in their records.

The practice had clear arrangements when patients needed to be referred to other dental or health care professionals.

The provider supported staff to complete training relevant to their roles and had systems to help them monitor this.

No action



Are services caring?

We found that this practice was providing caring services in accordance with the relevant regulations.

We received feedback about the practice from 22 people. Patients were positive about all aspects of the service the practice provided. They told us staff were friendly, kind and gentle. They said that they were treated with the utmost respect, had options clearly explained and felt supported. Patients said their dentist listened to them. Patients commented that they made them feel at ease, especially when they were anxious about visiting the dentist.

We saw that staff protected patients' privacy and were aware of the importance of confidentiality. Patients said staff treated them with dignity and respect.

No action



Are services responsive to people's needs?

We found that this practice was providing responsive care in accordance with the relevant regulations.

No action



Summary of findings

The practice's appointment system took account of patients' needs. Patients could get an appointment quickly if in pain.

Staff considered patients' different needs. This included providing facilities for patients with a disability and families with children. The practice had access to a translation and interpreting service.

The practice took patients views seriously. They valued compliments from patients and responded to concerns and complaints quickly and constructively.

Are services well-led?

We found that this practice was providing well-led care in accordance with the relevant regulations.

The practice had arrangements to ensure the smooth running of the service. These included systems for the practice team to discuss the quality and safety of the care and treatment provided. There was a clearly defined management structure and staff felt supported and appreciated.

The practice team kept complete patient dental care records which were, clearly written or typed and stored securely.

The provider monitored clinical and non-clinical areas of their work to help them improve and learn. This included asking for and listening to the views of patients and staff.

No action



Are services safe?

Our findings

Safety systems and processes, including staff recruitment, equipment and premises and radiography (X-rays)

The practice had clear systems to keep patients safe.

Staff knew their responsibilities if they had concerns about the safety of children, young people and adults who were vulnerable due to their circumstances. The practice had safeguarding policies and procedures to provide staff with information about identifying, reporting and dealing with suspected abuse. We saw evidence that staff received safeguarding training. Staff knew about the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect and how to report concerns, including notification to the CQC. There was a designated lead person for safeguarding alerts within the practice. They had completed safeguarding training to a higher level.

The practice had a system to highlight vulnerable patients on records for example, children with child protection plans, adults where there were safeguarding concerns, people with a learning disability or a mental health condition, or who require other support such as with mobility or communication. We saw examples of how this information was recorded within dental care records.

The practice had a whistleblowing policy. Staff felt confident they could raise concerns without fear of recrimination.

The dentists used dental dams in line with guidance from the British Endodontic Society when providing root canal treatment.

The provider had a business continuity plan describing how they would deal with events that could disrupt the normal running of the practice.

The practice had a recruitment policy and procedure to help them employ suitable staff. These reflected the relevant legislation. We looked at five staff recruitment records. The files contained the information required by the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2014.

We noted that clinical staff were qualified and registered with the General Dental Council (GDC) and had professional indemnity cover.

Records showed that fire detection equipment, such as smoke detectors and emergency lighting, was regularly tested and firefighting equipment, such as fire extinguishers, was regularly serviced. A fire risk assessment had been completed by an external company and reviewed internally in June 2018.

The practice had suitable arrangements to ensure the safety of the X-ray equipment. They met current radiation regulations and had the required information in their radiation protection file. The practice had suitable arrangements to ensure the safety of the X-ray equipment. They met current radiation regulations and had the required information in their radiation protection file. The provider had registered with the Health and Safety Executive in line with changes to legislation relating to radiography. Local rules for the X-ray unit were available in line with the current regulations. The provider used digital X-rays and had rectangular collimation fitted to the X-ray units to enhance patient safety.

We saw evidence that the dentist justified, graded and reported on the radiographs they took. There were radiography audits to demonstrate the dentists were evaluating their X-rays and were looking to make improvements.

Clinical staff completed continuing professional development (CPD) in respect of dental radiography.

Risks to patients

There were systems to assess, monitor and manage risks to patient safety.

The practice's health and safety policies, procedures and risk assessments were reviewed regularly to help manage potential risk. The practice had current employer's liability insurance.

We looked at the practice's arrangements for safe dental care and treatment. The staff followed relevant safety regulation when using needles and other sharp dental items.

The provider had a system in place to ensure clinical staff had received appropriate vaccinations, including the vaccination to protect them against the Hepatitis B virus, and that the effectiveness of the vaccination was checked.

Are services safe?

Staff knew how to respond to a medical emergency and completed training in emergency resuscitation and basic life support every year.

Emergency equipment and medicines were available as described in recognised guidance. Staff kept records of their checks to make sure these were available, within their expiry date, and in working order. We noted the paediatric self-inflating bag did not have any child size masks available. The practice manager ordered these during the inspection and provided evidence to the Care Quality Commission when they had arrived.

A dental nurse worked with the dentists when they treated patients in line with GDC Standards for the Dental Team.

The provider had suitable risk assessments to minimise the risk that can be caused from substances that are hazardous to health.

The practice had an infection prevention and control policy and procedures. They followed guidance in The Health Technical Memorandum 01-05: Decontamination in primary care dental practices (HTM01-05) published by the Department of Health and Social Care. Staff completed infection prevention and control training and received updates as required.

There was a lead for infection control as recommended by the published guidance. The lead had undertaken infection control training in line with their continuing professional development.

The practice had suitable arrangements for transporting, cleaning, checking, sterilising and storing instruments in line with HTM01-05. The records showed equipment used by staff for cleaning and sterilising instruments were validated, maintained and used in line with the manufacturers' guidance.

The practice had systems in place to ensure that any work was disinfected prior to being sent to a dental laboratory and before treatment was completed.

The provider had procedures to reduce the possibility of Legionella or other bacteria developing in the water systems, in line with a risk assessment. The risk assessment had been reviewed by an external company in June 2017.

We saw cleaning schedules for the premises. The practice was visibly clean when we inspected.

The practice had policies and procedures in place to ensure clinical waste was segregated and stored appropriately and securely in line with guidance.

The practice carried out infection prevention and control audits twice a year. When necessary an action plan had been produced. The latest audit showed the practice was meeting the required standards.

Information to deliver safe care and treatment

Staff had the information they needed to deliver safe care and treatment to patients.

We discussed with the dentist how information to deliver safe care and treatment was handled and recorded. We looked at a sample of dental care records to confirm our findings and noted that individual records were written and managed in a way that kept patients safe. Dental care records we saw were complete, legible, were kept securely and complied with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) requirements.

Patients updated their medical histories in the surgery and these were scanned directly into the electronic dental care records.

Patient referrals to other service providers contained specific information which allowed appropriate and timely referrals in line with practice protocols and current guidance.

Safe and appropriate use of medicines

The practice had reliable systems for appropriate and safe handling of medicines.

There was a suitable stock control system of medicines which were held on site. This ensured that medicines did not pass their expiry date and enough medicines were available if required. Systems within the practice ensured medicines were used safely and were secure.

The practice kept a log of prescriptions that had been issued to monitor their security and use. The practice kept a log of unused prescription pads held on the premises.

The dentists were aware of current guidance with regards to prescribing medicines.

Antimicrobial prescribing audits were completed annually, as identified in current guidance.

Are services safe?

Track record on safety and lessons learned and improvements

The practice had a good safety record.

There were comprehensive risk assessments in relation to safety issues. The practice monitored and reviewed incidents. This helped it to understand risks and gave a clear, accurate and current picture that led to safety improvements.

In the 12 months up to this inspection there had been three accidents recorded. We saw that accidents had been investigated, documented and discussed with the rest of the dental team to prevent such occurrences happening

again. There was a system for recording and analysing critical incidents, and the records showed critical incidents were a standing item on the monthly team meeting agenda.

There were adequate systems for reviewing and investigating when things went wrong. The practice learned, and shared lessons identified themes and acted to improve safety in the practice.

There was a system for receiving and acting on safety alerts. The practice learned from external safety events as well as patient and medicine safety alerts. We saw they were shared with the team when they were received and reviewed on a monthly basis at team meetings and acted upon if required.

Are services effective?

(for example, treatment is effective)

Our findings

Effective needs assessment, care and treatment

The practice had systems to keep dental practitioners up to date with current evidence-based practice. We saw that clinicians assessed needs and delivered care and treatment in line with current legislation, standards and guidance supported by clear clinical pathways and protocols.

The staff were involved in quality improvement initiatives including peer review as part of their approach in providing high quality care.

The practice had access to equipment such as microscopes, intra-oral cameras, digital cameras and digital X-rays to enhance the delivery of care.

The staff were involved in quality improvement initiatives including peer review as part of their approach in providing high quality care.

Helping patients to live healthier lives

The practice was providing preventive care and supporting patients to ensure better oral health in line with the Delivering Better Oral Health toolkit.

The dentist told us that where applicable they discussed smoking, alcohol consumption and diet with patients during appointments. The practice provided health promotion leaflets to help patients with their oral health. We saw evidence of these discussions in dental care records. A television in the waiting rooms provided positive oral health messages.

The dentists prescribed high concentration fluoride toothpaste if a patient's risk of tooth decay indicated this would help them. They used fluoride varnish for children and adults based on an assessment of the risk of tooth decay.

The practice was aware of national oral health campaigns and local schemes available in supporting patients to live healthier lives. For example, local stop smoking services. They directed patients to these schemes when necessary.

The dentists described to us the procedures they used to improve the outcomes for patients with gum disease. This involved providing patients preventative advice, taking plaque and gum bleeding scores and recording detailed

charts of the patient's gum condition. Patients with more severe gum disease were recalled at more frequent intervals for review and to reinforce home care preventative advice.

Consent to care and treatment

The practice obtained consent to care and treatment in line with legislation and guidance. The practice team understood the importance of obtaining and recording patients' consent to treatment. The dentists gave patients information about treatment options and the risks and benefits of these, so they could make informed decisions. Patients confirmed their dentist listened to them and gave them clear information about their treatment.

Following this inspection, the practice reviewed their consent policy. The updated comprehensive consent policy included information about the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) 2005. The consent policy outlined the principles which underpinned the MCA and defined best interest decisions. The team understood their responsibilities under the act when treating adults who may not be able to make informed decisions. The policy contained information on Gillick competence, by which a child under the age of 16 years of age may give consent for themselves.

Staff described how they involved patients' relatives or carers when appropriate and made sure they had enough time to explain treatment options clearly.

Monitoring care and treatment

The practice kept detailed dental care records containing information about the patients' current dental needs, past treatment and medical histories. The dentist assessed patients' treatment needs in line with recognised guidance. The relevant information was recorded in a detailed and clear manner and was easily accessible for clinical staff.

We saw that dental care records had been audited and improvements had been identified and actioned.

Effective staffing

Staff had the skills, knowledge and experience to carry out their roles.

Staff new to the practice had a period of induction based on a structured induction programme. We confirmed clinical staff completed the continuing professional development required for their registration with the General Dental Council.

Are services effective?

(for example, treatment is effective)

Records showed all staff had received an annual appraisal and completed personal development plans where appropriate.

Co-ordinating care and treatment

Staff worked together and with other health and social care professionals to deliver effective care and treatment.

The dentists confirmed they referred patients to a range of specialists in primary and secondary care if they needed treatment the practice did not provide.

The practice had systems to identify, manage, follow up and where required refer patients for specialist care when

presenting with dental infections. Staff were aware of the risks associated with sepsis. The practice had raised awareness with staff through training and there was a practice statement on sepsis in the infection control policy.

The practice also had systems for referring patients with suspected oral cancer under the national two weeks wait arrangements. This was initiated by NICE in 2005 to help make sure patients were seen quickly by a specialist.

The practice monitored referrals through an electronic referral and tracking system to make sure they were dealt with promptly.

Are services caring?

Our findings

Kindness, respect and compassion

Staff treated patients with kindness, respect and compassion

Staff were aware of their responsibility to respect people's diversity and human rights.

Patients commented positively that staff were friendly, kind and gentle. We saw that staff treated patients with the utmost respect, had options clearly explained and felt supported. Staff were friendly towards patients at the reception desk and over the telephone.

Patients told us staff were kind and helpful when they were in pain, distress or discomfort.

The costs for private dental treatments were on display in the practice.

Privacy and dignity

The practice respected and promoted patients' privacy and dignity.

Staff were aware of the importance of privacy and confidentiality. The layout of reception and waiting areas provided privacy when reception staff were dealing with patients. Staff told us that if a patient asked for more privacy they would take them into a private room next to reception. The reception computer screens were not visible to patients and staff did not leave patients' personal information where other patients might see it.

Staff password protected patients' electronic care records and backed these up to secure storage. They stored paper records securely.

Involving people in decisions about care and treatment

Staff helped patients to be involved in decisions about their care and were aware of the requirements under the Equality Act.

- The practice had access to an Interpreting service, who could provide both face to face and telephone translations. There were staff at the practice who could speak and understand Spanish, Portuguese, Polish and German if required.

The most recent patient satisfaction survey had been completed during May 2019 and June 2019. 60 patients had responded and this generated both positive feedback and some action points for the practice. Feedback for patients following the survey was displayed in the waiting rooms.

- Staff communicated with patients in a way that they could understand, for example, communication aids were available.

The practice gave patients clear information to help them make informed choices. Patients confirmed that staff listened to them, did not rush them and discussed options for treatment with them. A dentist described the conversations they had with patients to satisfy themselves they understood their treatment options.

The practice's information leaflets provided patients with information about the range of treatments available at the practice.

Are services responsive to people's needs?

(for example, to feedback?)

Our findings

Responding to and meeting people's needs

The practice organised and delivered services to meet patients' needs. It took account of patient needs and preferences.

Staff were clear on the importance of emotional support needed by patients when delivering care.

Patients described high levels of satisfaction with the responsive service provided by the practice.

The practice had some patients for whom they needed to make adjustments to enable them to receive treatment. These included having an induction hearing loop, ground floor adapted toilet and a ground floor treatment room available.

The practice had considered the needs of children and infants. There were baby changing facilities available and a step for young children to use the toilet.

Staff sent text messages to remind patients who had agreed to receive them when they had an appointment.

Timely access to services

Patients could access care and treatment from the practice within an acceptable timescale for their needs.

The practice displayed its opening hours in the premises and included it in their practice information leaflet.

The practice had an efficient appointment system to respond to patients' needs. The practice had emergency appointments for patients who were in pain or who telephoned in an emergency. Patients told us they had enough time during their appointment and did not feel rushed. Appointments ran smoothly on the day of the inspection and patients were not kept waiting.

If patients required emergency out-of-hours treatment, they could ring the practice telephone number for advice on how to proceed.

The information leaflet provided telephone numbers for patients needing emergency dental treatment during the working day and when the practice was not open. Patients confirmed they could make routine and emergency appointments easily and were rarely kept waiting for their appointment.

Listening and learning from concerns and complaints

The practice took complaints and concerns seriously and responded to them appropriately to improve the quality of care.

The practice had a policy providing guidance to staff on how to handle a complaint. This was displayed within the practice for the benefit of patients. The practice information leaflet explained how to make a complaint. The practice manager was responsible for dealing with these. Staff told us they would tell the practice manager about any formal or informal comments or concerns straight away so patients received a quick response.

The practice manager told us they aimed to settle complaints in-house and invited patients to speak with them in person to discuss these. Information was available about organisations patients could contact if not satisfied with the way the practice dealt with their concerns.

We looked at comments, compliments and complaints the practice received in the year up to this inspection. The practice had received two formal complaints during that year. The records showed that the practice had followed their complaints policy when dealing with complaints.

Are services well-led?

Our findings

Leadership capacity and capability

Leaders and managers had the capacity and skills to deliver high-quality, sustainable care. They also had the experience, capacity and skills to deliver the practice strategy and address risks to it.

They were knowledgeable about issues and priorities relating to the quality and future of services. They understood the challenges and were addressing them.

Leaders and managers at all levels were visible and approachable. They worked closely with staff and others to make sure they prioritised compassionate and inclusive leadership.

The practice had effective processes to develop leadership capacity and skills, including planning for the future leadership of the practice.

Culture

The practice had a culture of high-quality sustainable care.

Staff stated they felt respected, supported and valued. Staff were proud to work in the practice. The practice focused on the needs of patients. Managers had systems to identify and act on behaviour and performance that was not consistent with the vision and values of the practice.

Openness, honesty and transparency were demonstrated when responding to incidents and complaints. The provider was aware of and had systems to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Duty of Candour. The practice had a duty of candour policy, and the practice manager showed a clear understanding of the principles that underpinned it.

Staff could raise concerns and were encouraged to do so. They had confidence that these would be addressed.

Governance and management

Staff knew the management arrangements and their roles and responsibilities.

The provider had a system of clinical governance in place which included policies, protocols and procedures that were accessible to all members of staff and were reviewed on a regular basis.

The team were welcoming and engaged throughout the inspection. The practice manager was open to feedback and discussion and was proactive in their response to areas we found could be improved upon.

There were clear and effective processes for managing risks, issues and performance.

Engagement with patients, the public, staff and external partners

The practice involved patients, the public, staff and external partners to support high-quality sustainable services.

The practice used patient surveys, comment cards and verbal comments to obtain staff and patients' views about the service. We saw examples of suggestions from patients the practice had acted on, for example, updating magazines in the waiting room, fitting a coat hook in the patient toilet and providing an umbrella stand.

The practice gathered feedback from staff through meetings, surveys, and informal discussions. Staff were encouraged to offer suggestions for improvements to the service and said these were listened to and acted on.

There were six reviews on-line which had been received in the year up to this inspection. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

Continuous improvement and innovation

There were systems and processes for learning, continuous improvement and innovation.

The practice had quality assurance processes to encourage learning and continuous improvement. These included audits of dental care records, X-rays and infection prevention and control. Learning points were identified and an action plan was produced when applicable.

The whole staff team had annual appraisals. They discussed learning needs, general wellbeing and aims for future professional development. We saw evidence of completed appraisals in the staff folders.

Staff completed 'highly recommended' training as per the General Dental Council professional standards. This included undertaking medical emergencies and basic life support training annually. The provider supported and encouraged staff to complete their continuing professional development to meet the professional standards.