Steeple Dental Ltd

Steeple Dental Ltd

Inspection report

10A Chaloners Hill
Steeple Claydon
Buckingham
MK18 2PE
Tel: 01296730260
www.claydondental.co.uk

Date of inspection visit: 15 March 2021
Date of publication: 11/05/2021

Overall summary

We carried out a focused inspection on 15 March 2021 under section 60 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 as part of our regulatory functions.

We planned the review to check whether the provider was meeting the legal requirements in the Health and Social Care Act 2008 and associated regulations. The review was led by a CQC Inspection Manager who was supported by a specialist dental adviser.

To get to the heart of patients' experiences of care and treatment, we asked the following question:

- Is it safe?

This question formed the framework for the areas we look at during the inspection.

Our findings were:

Are services safe?
We found this practice was providing safe care in accordance with the relevant regulations.

Background

Steeple Dental Limited (trading as Claydon Dental) is in Steeple Claydon and provides private treatment to patients of all ages.

The dental team includes three dentists, one implantologist, one dental hygienist, two hygiene therapists, three dental nurses, one trainee dental nurse, one receptionist and a practice manager.

The practice has two treatment rooms.

Summary of findings

The practice is owned by an individual who is the principal dentist. They have legal responsibility for meeting the requirements in the Health and Social Care Act 2008 and associated regulations about how the practice is run.

During our inspection we spoke with the principal dentist, head nurse and practice manager. We looked at practice policies and procedures and other records about how the service is managed.

The practice is open:

- Monday 9am – 5pm
- Tuesday 9am – 2pm
- Wednesday 9am – 5pm
- Thursday 10.30am – 7pm
- Friday 8am – 1pm

Our key findings were:

- The provider had procedures in place which took account of published guidance, including guidance about providing dental care services during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The practice appeared to be visibly clean and well-maintained.
- The provider had infection control procedures which reflected published guidance.
- The appointment system took account of Covid-19 recommended periods of fallow time following aerosol generating dental procedures.
- The provider had systems to help them manage risks to patients and staff.

Summary of findings

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We asked the following question(s).

Are services safe?	**No action** ✓

Are services safe?

Our findings

We found that this practice was providing safe care and was complying with the relevant regulations.

Safety systems and processes

Staff had clear systems to keep patients safe.

We reviewed the provider's arrangements to ensure safe care and treatment in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic.

We found the provider had taken account of current published Covid-19 guidance relating to dental practices and had introduced new systems and procedures.

These included measures to reduce risks to patients and staff from the Coronavirus, such as:

- Identifying clear routes around the practice
- Regular supplies of personal protective equipment
- Staff training
- Patient information and screening processes
- The treatment room is left in solitude for a set period of time after an aerosol generating procedure to allow microorganisms suspended in air to settle down. This is known as fallow time.

The provider 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, (HTM 01-05), published by the Department of Health and Social Care.

Staff completed infection prevention and control training and received updates as required.

The provider had arrangements for transporting, cleaning, checking, sterilising and storing instruments in line with HTM 01-05. The records showed equipment used by staff for cleaning and sterilising instruments was validated, maintained and used in line with the manufacturers' guidance.

The provider had suitable numbers of dental instruments available for the clinical staff and measures were in place to ensure they were decontaminated and sterilised appropriately.

The staff had systems in place to ensure that patient-specific dental appliances were disinfected prior to being sent to a dental laboratory and before treatment was completed.

We saw staff had procedures to reduce the possibility of Legionella or other bacteria developing in the water systems, in line with a risk assessment.

We saw effective cleaning schedules to ensure the practice was kept clean. The practice was visibly clean on inspection day.

The provider had policies and procedures in place to ensure clinical waste was segregated and stored appropriately in line with guidance. We noted that the clinical waste bins, although locked, were not secured to a fixed point outside the practice.

The provider carried out infection prevention and control audits twice a year. The latest audit showed the practice was meeting the required standards.

Risks to patients

The provider had implemented systems to assess, monitor and manage risks to patient safety.

Are services safe?

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

We looked at the practice's arrangements for safe dental care and treatment. The staff followed the 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 vaccination to protect them against the Hepatitis B virus, and that the effectiveness of the vaccination was checked. For staff who were part way through a course of vaccinations a risk assessment was carried out.

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