

# Mr Bhavin Shantilal Parmar Blackbird Road Dental Practice

**Inspection Report** 

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### **Overall summary**

We carried out this announced inspection on 30 August 2018 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

Blackbird Road Dental Practice is in Leicester and provides mostly NHS and some private treatment to adults and children.

There is level access for people who use wheelchairs and those with pushchairs. Car parking spaces are available at the rear of the premises in the practice's car park. Whilst there is not a designated space allocated for blue badge holders, there is room on the practice forecourt for those with mobility problems to utilise this space.

## Summary of findings

The dental team includes three dentists, five dental nurses, one dental hygienist, and two receptionists. The practice has three treatment rooms; two are on the ground floor.

The practice is owned by an individual who is the principal dentist there. 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.

On the day of inspection, we collected 35 CQC comment cards filled in by patients.

During the inspection we spoke with three dentists, two dental nurses and a receptionist. We looked at practice policies and procedures, patient feedback and other records about how the service is managed.

The practice is open: Monday, Thursday and Friday from 8.30am to 5pm, Tuesday from 8.30am to 6pm and Wednesday from 8am to 5pm.

#### 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 effective systems to help them manage risk to patients and staff.

- The practice staff had suitable safeguarding processes and staff knew their responsibilities for safeguarding vulnerable adults and children.
- The provider had thorough staff recruitment procedures.
- 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.
- The provider was providing preventive care and supporting patients to ensure better oral health.
- The appointment system met patients' needs.
- The practice had effective leadership and a culture of continuous improvement.
- Staff felt involved and supported and worked well as a team.
- The practice 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.

There were areas where the provider could make improvements. They should:

• Review the security of NHS prescription pads in the practice and ensure there are systems in place to track and monitor their use.

### 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.	No action	~
The practice had systems and processes to provide safe care and treatment. They used learning from incidents and complaints to help them improve. The focus on learning and improvement was embedded within practice operations.		
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 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.		
<b>Are services effective?</b> We found that this practice was providing effective care in accordance with the relevant regulations.	No action	~
The dentists assessed patients' needs and provided care and treatment in line with recognised guidance. Patients described the treatment they received as professional, went beyond expectations and excellent. The dentists discussed treatment with patients so they could give informed consent and recorded this in their records.		
The practice was based in an area that had a mix of ethnicity and diversity. The practice provided care and treatment to meet all individual needs.		
<b>Are services caring?</b> We found that this practice was providing caring services in accordance with the relevant regulations.	No action	~
We received feedback about the practice from 35 people. Patients were positive about all aspects of the service the practice provided. They told us staff were always helpful, had a positive attitude and were considerate.		
They said that they were given helpful and detailed explanations about dental treatment, in a way they could understand and many said their dentist listened to them. Patients commented that they made them feel at ease, especially when they were anxious about visiting the dentist. Patients told us that dentists were also accommodating of children's needs.		
We saw that staff protected patients' privacy and were aware of the importance of confidentiality. Many patients said staff treated them with dignity and respect.		
<b>Are services responsive to people's needs?</b> 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 was efficient and met patients' needs. Patients could get an appointment quickly if in pain.

Staff considered patients' different needs. This included providing level access to the premises and providing interpreter services. The provider had arrangements to help patients with hearing loss. The provider had refurbishment plans that included building a fully accessible toilet.

No action  $\checkmark$ 

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 practice 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. The practice told their patients about improvements implemented.

### Are services safe?

### Our findings

#### Safety systems and processes, including staff recruitment, Equipment & 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. The lead for safeguarding concerns was the principal dentist.

We saw evidence that staff received safeguarding training. Discussion also took place in practice staff meetings to refresh their knowledge. Staff knew about the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect and how to report concerns, including notification to the CQC.

There was a system to highlight vulnerable patients on records e.g. 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.

The practice had a whistleblowing policy. Staff we spoke with told us they felt confident they could raise concerns without fear of recrimination.

The dentists used rubber 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. A copy had not been kept off site; the principal dentist told us they would now do so.

The practice had a recruitment policy and procedure to help them employ suitable staff and also had checks in place for agency and locum staff. These reflected the relevant legislation. We looked at four staff recruitment records. These showed the practice followed their recruitment procedure.

We noted that clinical staff were qualified and registered with the General Dental Council (GDC) and had professional indemnity cover. The practice ensured that facilities and equipment were safe and that equipment was maintained according to manufacturers' instructions, including electrical and gas appliances. We saw servicing and testing documentation dated within the previous twelve months.

Records showed that fire detection equipment, such as smoke detectors and emergency lighting, were regularly tested and firefighting equipment, such as fire extinguishers, were regularly serviced.

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.

We saw evidence that the dentists justified, graded and reported on the radiographs they took. The practice carried out robust radiography audits every year following current guidance and legislation.

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 up to date and reviewed regularly to help manage potential risk. We noted the detailed practice specific assessments completed, for example in relation to health and safety and fire. The practice took all appropriate action to mitigate risk in response to the assessments. The practice had current employer's liability insurance.

The dentists used traditional sharps rather than a safer sharps system. The dentists had taken measures to manage the risks of sharps injuries by using a safeguard when handling needles. We were informed that dental nurses did not handle used needles. A sharps risk assessment had been undertaken and was updated annually.

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. Training was last completed in May 2018.

Emergency equipment and medicines were available as described in recognised guidance. Staff kept records of their weekly checks to make sure these were available, within their expiry date, and in working order.

A dental nurse worked with the dentists and the dental hygienist 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 occasionally used temporary staff. We noted that these staff received an induction to ensure that they were familiar with the practice's procedures.

One of the dental nurses was the lead for infection prevention and control. 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.

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 in place systems and protocols to ensure that any dental laboratory work was disinfected prior to being sent to a dental laboratory and before the dental laboratory work was fitted in a patient's mouth.

The practice had procedures to reduce the possibility of Legionella or other bacteria developing in the water systems, in line with a risk assessment. The latest risk assessment was undertaken in January 2017. All recommendations had been actioned and records of water testing and dental unit water line management were in place. The practice utilised an external cleaner who attended the premises on a daily basis. The practice was clean when we inspected and patients confirmed that this was usual.

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

The practice carried out infection prevention and control audits twice a year. The latest audit in August 2018 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 dentists 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, (formerly known as the Data Protection Act).

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.

The practice stored NHS prescriptions securely as described in current guidance. We noted that a log was not maintained of individual prescription numbers held; this presented a risk regarding the ability to identify if an individual script was taken. The principal dentist told us they would take action to strengthen their system.

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

### Are services safe?

Antimicrobial prescribing audits were carried out. The most recent audit demonstrated the dentists were following current guidelines.

#### Track record on safety

The practice had a very positive safety record. There were comprehensive risk assessments in relation to safety issues.

There was a focus on learning and improvement and this approach was embedded within the practice operations.

The practice had processes to monitor and review accidents when they occurred. We looked at a record relating to a reported accident. The accident had been investigated, documented and discussed with the dental team to prevent an occurrence happening again in the future.

#### Lessons learned and improvements

The practice learned and made improvements when things went wrong. We reviewed information relating to six

untoward incidents that occurred within the previous 12 months. The practice monitored and reviewed incidents / significant events. This helped it to understand risks and gave a clear, accurate and current picture that led to safety improvements. For example, dentists were requested to check lab work prior to a patient's booked appointment to ensure any issues were identified at the earliest opportunity.

The staff were aware of the Serious Incident Framework and recorded, responded to and discussed all incidents to reduce risk and support future learning in line with the framework.

There was a system for receiving safety alerts. The principal dentist was not maintaining a log of alerts received and reviewed, which were relevant to a dental setting. The principal dentist recalled recent alerts issued and told us that a log would be implemented. The practice learned from external safety events as well as patient and medicine safety alerts.

# 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 patients' needs and delivered care and treatment in line with current legislation, standards and guidance supported by clear clinical pathways and protocols.

#### 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. We noted leaflets which were specific to three different age groups.

The practice was based in an area that had a mix of ethnicity and diversity. We were informed that this included some refugees who had higher dental care requirements. The dentists also referred to other challenges such as the higher rates of dental decay amongst children in the City.

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 aged between four and 16 and based on an assessment of the risk of tooth decay.

The dentists where applicable, discussed smoking, alcohol consumption and diet with patients during appointments. The practice had a selection of dental products for sale and provided health promotion leaflets to help patients with their oral health.

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 to review their compliance and to reinforce home care preventative advice.

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.

The team understood their responsibilities under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 when treating adults who may not be able to make informed decisions. We noted that practice staff meeting agendas were planned a year in advance and topics for discussion included consent and the principles of the Mental Capacity Act.

The practice's consent policy referred to Gillick competence, by which a child under the age of 16 years of age can give consent for themselves. The staff were aware of the need to consider this when treating young people under 16 years of age.

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 dentists assessed patients' treatment needs in line with recognised guidance.

We saw the practice audited patients' dental care records to check that the dentists recorded the necessary information.

#### **Effective staffing**

Staff had the skills, knowledge and experience to carry out their roles. For example, a dental nurse had completed an impression taking course and fluoride application course. All but one of the dental nurses had undertaken radiography training. The principal dentist also undertook the role of practice manager and told us how he kept up to date on practice management issues such as online forums and attendance at conferences.

#### **Consent to care and treatment**

### Are services effective? (for example, treatment is effective)

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

Staff discussed their training needs at annual appraisals. We saw evidence of completed appraisals and how the practice addressed the training requirements of staff.

#### **Co-ordinating care and treatment**

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

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

The practice monitored all referrals 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 always helpful, had a positive attitude and were considerate. We saw that staff treated patients respectfully and appropriately and were friendly towards patients at the reception desk and over the telephone.

Patients said staff were compassionate and understanding and they told us they could choose whether they saw a male or female dentist. The practice told us that some of their female patients only wanted to visit a female dentist for cultural reasons; this was accommodated.

Patients told us staff were kind and helpful when they were in pain, distress or discomfort. One comment from a patient included that they would not go anywhere else for treatment.

Patient survey results and thank you cards were available for patients to read.

#### **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 the separate two waiting areas provided privacy when reception staff were dealing with patients. If a patient asked for more privacy they would take them into another room. The reception computer screens were not visible to patients and staff did not leave patients' personal information where other patients might see it. We noted that staff were reminded of confidentiality in previous practice meeting minutes. 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 be involved in decisions about their care and were aware of the

Accessible Information Standards and the requirements under the Equality Act.

- Interpretation services were available for patients who did not have English as a first language.
- Other languages were spoken by some of the practice staff. These included Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi and French.
- Staff communicated with patients in a way that they could understand. For example, the receptionist could help a patient to complete forms if they had sight problems and the principal dentist told us they could obtain information in large print and easy read materials if required.

The practice gave patients clear information to help them make informed choices about their treatment. 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 leaflet provided patients with information about the range of treatments available at the practice.

The dentists described to us the methods they used to help patients understand treatment options discussed. These included for example, photographs, models, videos, X-ray images and use of an intra-oral camera. These helped the patient/relative better understand the diagnosis and treatment.

### 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.

For example, staff told us how they met the needs of more vulnerable members of society such as patients with dementia and those with a mental health condition.

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

The practice, currently had some patients for whom they needed to make adjustments to enable them to receive treatment. Patients with mobility problems were seen in a ground floor treatment room.

The practice had made reasonable adjustments for patients with disabilities. These included step free access and a hearing loop. The practice had further plans for modifications to the building, this included an accessible toilet. A patient toilet facility was currently available but this was not suitable for wheelchair users.

Staff issued reminders to patients by text, email or letter to advise them to book in for an appointment when one had not been booked but was due.

#### Timely access to services

Patients were able to access care and treatment from the practice within an acceptable timescale for their needs. Practice staff told us that the next routine appointment was available with one of the dentists within two working days. An appointment with the hygienist was available the next working day.

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

The practice had an efficient appointment system to respond to patients' needs. Patients who requested an

urgent appointment were seen the same day. Emergency appointment slots were blocked in the mornings and afternoons with each of the dentists to enable patients' urgent dental problems to be treated.

Patients had enough time during their appointment and did not feel rushed. Appointments appeared to run smoothly on the day of the inspection and patients were not kept unduly waiting.

Patients requesting treatment outside of usual working hours were advised to contact NHS 111.

The practices' information leaflet and answerphone provided telephone numbers for patients needing emergency dental treatment during the working day and when the practice was closed. Patients confirmed they could make routine and emergency appointments easily and were not often 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. The practice information leaflet explained how to make a complaint.

The reception lead was responsible for dealing with these. Staff would tell the lead or principal dentist about any formal or informal comments or concerns straight away so patients received a quick response.

The principal dentist aimed to settle complaints in-house and told us they would invite patients to speak with them in person to discuss these, if appropriate. 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 within the previous twelve months. Complaints reviewed showed the practice responded to concerns appropriately and discussed outcomes with staff to share learning and improve the service.

### Are services well-led?

### Our findings

#### Leadership capacity and capability

The principal dentist, supported by their associates had the capacity and skills to deliver high-quality, sustainable care.

The principal dentist 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 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. The practice had undergone some modification and improvements, for example, the decontamination room. Further plans were in place for development within the practice.

#### Vision and strategy

There was a clear vision and set of values. The practice had a realistic strategy and supporting business plans to achieve priorities.

The practice strategy was in line with health and social priorities across the region. The practice planned its services to meet the needs of the practice population.

#### Culture

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

Staff stated they felt respected, supported and valued. They were proud to work in the practice.

The practice focused on the needs of patients.

The principal dentist took effective action to do deal with poor performance.

We looked at specific examples whereby openness, honesty and transparency were demonstrated when responding to incidents and complaints.

The provider was fully aware of and had systems to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Duty of Candour. Systems were reviewed and strengthened when any particular issues or concerns were highlighted. For example, a new process was implemented regarding the issue of prescriptions; previously some patients had forgotten to have them stamped prior to leaving the premises.

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

#### **Governance and management**

There were clear responsibilities, roles and systems of accountability to support good governance and management.

The principal dentist had overall responsibility for the management and clinical leadership of the practice. They were also responsible for the day to day running of the service. 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.

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

#### Appropriate and accurate information

The practice acted on appropriate and accurate information.

Quality and operational information was used to ensure and improve performance. Performance information was combined with the views of patients.

The practice had information governance arrangements and staff were aware of the importance of these in protecting patients' personal information.

### 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 and verbal comments to obtain staff and patients' views about the service. We saw examples of suggestions from patients and staff the practice had acted on. As a result of patient feedback, WIFI access had been made available for patient use, a

### Are services well-led?

television had been installed in the upstairs waiting room and radios had been placed in the surgery rooms. The practice posted 'What we have done' posters in the practice to show patients changes that had been implemented.

Staff feedback had resulted in changes to working practice and protocols and the installation of the modern decontamination room.

Patients were encouraged to complete the NHS Friends and Family Test (FFT). This is a national programme to allow patients to provide feedback on NHS services they have used.

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

#### **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, radiographs, antimicrobial and infection prevention and control. They had clear records of the results of these audits and the resulting action plans and improvements.

The principal dentist showed a commitment to learning and improvement and valued the contributions made to the team by individual members of staff.

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 General Dental Council professional standards. This included undertaking medical emergencies and basic life support training annually.

The General Dental Council also requires clinical staff to complete continuing professional development. The practice provided support and encouragement for them to do so.