

## National Third Molar Audit - Information for Patients - Version 3

**You have been given this leaflet because you have been referred for third molar or 'wisdom tooth' treatment. The surgeons and other health professionals who care for you would like to invite you to take part in the National Third Molar Audit.**

### **What is the National Third Molar Audit?**

The National Third Molar Audit is a national clinical audit which collects information about the treatment of wisdom tooth problems and uses it to measure the quality of patient care. The results will also be used to help surgeons understand more about the best treatments for wisdom tooth problems and improve care for patients in the future.

### **What is NFORC and what does it do?**

The UK's National Facial and Oral Research Centre (NFORC) is the first of its kind in the world. It is a branch of the medical research charity *Saving Faces - The Facial Surgery Research Foundation* and has grown from a collaboration with the British Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (BAOMS), the national surgical organisation specialising in the treatment of wisdom teeth. NFORC is the brainchild of UK surgeons, like yours, who want to improve treatment for all patients worldwide. Most surgical treatments for facial and oral conditions are relatively successful, but there is usually more than one treatment for the same condition and some may be more successful than others. Unfortunately, the evidence for which treatment works best is not yet available. NFORC is helping the UK lead the world in finding the most effective treatments for all mouth and face conditions and injuries. This work needs your help, and a lot of extra effort by your surgeon. It means collecting data on large numbers of patients, sometimes over many years.

### **Who is organising the audit?**

The surgeons in BAOMS have designed this project and asked NFORC to organise and lead it, working with your local surgeons and the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC). The HSCIC is the UK's national provider of information, data and IT systems for health and social care.

### **Why have I been chosen?**

We are asking all people in the UK who are referred with wisdom tooth problems to take part in the audit. The more people that join the audit, the more meaningful and useful the results will be. Your surgeon and NFORC would be extremely grateful if you would take part.

### **Do I have to take part?**

No. We understand that some people will not want to take part, and this decision will not affect your treatment or your relationship with your surgeon in any way. Your care will be exactly the same whether you take part or not.

### **Are there any disadvantages in taking part?**

Taking part will take up a little extra time reading this leaflet and talking to the nurse or researcher about your problems and treatment.

### **What do I have to do to take part?**

We will ask you to complete a questionnaire about any problems you have had with your wisdom teeth. This will save some time in your consultation with the surgeon as they normally ask these questions. The details collected will include your name, NHS number, date of birth, postcode and gender. These are needed so that information collected at different times and in different places can be properly entered in the audit system and so that we can contact you in future. If your surgeon decides to extract any of your wisdom teeth, we will contact you 3 months after the surgery to ask you some questions about your recovery. You can choose to be contacted by phone or email. We may also contact you at later times to see how you felt about the treatment and its results.

### **How do I join the audit?**

If you wish to take part you will be given further information by your local team who will explain the process in detail and ask you to sign a consent form.

### **How will information about me be collected and stored?**

Information will be collected locally on a paper form or computer file and then sent to the audit using HSCIC's secure internet-based data collection system. HSCIC will store it securely for NFORC.

### **Will my privacy be protected?**

Your privacy will be protected at all times. When collecting medical information there are very strict rules about confidentiality, including those of the 1998 Data Protection Act. We must follow these rules and keep your information safe. HSCIC staff will only be able to see personal details if it is absolutely necessary for database administration. The NFORC researchers at Saving Faces will need to see personal details to contact you in the future but this will only happen as part of work that has been approved by the appropriate Research Ethics Committee.

### **What will NFORC do with my information?**

The data from this audit will be published in medical, dental and scientific journals. It will never be possible to identify any individual patient in any publication. We would like your permission to link the information you give us to other records, such as those about visits to hospital or that are held by the Office for National Statistics. We would also like your permission to share your data, in a fully anonymised form, with other researchers who might want to use it for valuable research. They will not have your name or any other identifying details and the research would always be in line with the aims of the audit.

### **Can I withdraw from the audit once it has started?**

You may withdraw from the audit at any time. If you have agreed to participate and have completed a questionnaire you can still change your mind later. This will not affect your treatment; you just need to let your surgeon know. We can remove your information from the audit and, if you prefer, we will not contact you again.

### **Will I find out the results of the audit?**

It may be some time before the results of the audit are available. We will not contact you directly about the results but they will be publicised on the BAOMS, Saving Faces and NFORC websites.

### **Contact details**

If you have a query about any aspect of this audit please feel free to contact your local team or the Saving Faces Research Office, who will do their best to answer your questions or direct you to a lead clinician.

#### ***NFORC/Saving Faces Research Office***

Tel: 020 8223 8049 or email [info@nforc.co.uk](mailto:info@nforc.co.uk)

National Third Molar Audit - Lead Clinicians:

#### **James Gallagher**

Chair of British Association of Oral and Maxillofacial  
Surgeons (BAOMS) Clinical Effectiveness  
Committee  
Tel. 0207 405 8074 or email [office@baoms.org.uk](mailto:office@baoms.org.uk)

#### **Professor Iain Hutchison**

Director of NFORC/Saving Faces  
Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon  
Bart's Health NHS Trust  
Tel: 020 8223 8049  
or email [info@savingfaces.co.uk](mailto:info@savingfaces.co.uk)

If you want to find out more about the National Facial and Oral Research Centre, or if you'd like to be part of our patient advisory groups, please visit our website: [www.nforc.co.uk](http://www.nforc.co.uk)



## National Third Molar Audit - Patient Consent Form

Patient's Full Name\*:

Hospital Name: .....

.....

*\*please print name clearly*

Hospital No: .....

NHS No: .....

Date of Birth: .....

### Consent for Data Collection

I confirm that I have read the information leaflet 'National Third Molar Audit - Information for Patients' and have had a chance to ask questions about the audit.

Patient Initials:

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I agree to my personal details, medical history, treatment and on-going health status being collected by my surgeon and stored by the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) on behalf of the National Facial and Oral Research Centre (NFORC) for the purpose of carrying out research now and in the future on this data.

Patient Initials:

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I understand that:

- My data will be stored and treated in a strictly confidential manner, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, and that all future users of my data will abide by this Act.
- I am free to withdraw my consent at any time.
- My data may be shared, in a fully anonymised form, which does not identify me, with other scientists or medical research organisations for use in ethically-approved research studies
- No publications using my data will identify me in any way.
- My data may be linked to records held in other datasets, such as details of other visits to hospital or information held by the Office for National Statistics
- If NFORC wish to conduct a new research project, which involves collecting more data from me not directly related to this treatment and its outcome, they will have to obtain ethical approval for each project before they can contact me and seek my consent again for that specific project.

Patient Initials:

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I give permission for NFORC to contact me after my treatment to ask about my recovery from this treatment and my current health status.

Patient Initials:

My contact details are:

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Diagnosis: 3<sup>rd</sup> molar

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Name of Patient

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Person taking consent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature