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Our Reference: FOI-1178

2 December 2009

Via email

Mr Richard Green
request-23581-3e8bdf8c@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Green

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act

Thank you for your email of 23 November 2009 where you requested information about orthodontists in the Portsmouth and Hampshire area who hold an NHS contract to treat adult patients.

A list of all dentists holding NHS contracts within the area of Hampshire PCT is available via the NHS Choices website: <http://www.nhs.uk/servicedirectories/pages/trust.aspx?id=5qc&v=3> .

There is no list of dentists holding NHS orthodontic contracts to treat adult patients within the area of Hampshire PCT as any such procedure will be referred to, and assessed individually by NHS Hampshire's Non-Contractual Referral process as set out in the "*Policy and Procedure for non-contractual referrals*" http://www.hampshire.nhs.uk/create-content/upload-files/doc_download/613-policy-and-procedure-for-non-contractual-referrals-cor-cmg-06-v2-00 . The policy for considering adult cases on an individual basis is in line with national guidance and access to NHS orthodontic treatment should be via a dentist (NHS or private), when options should be discussed directly with the dentist.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Freedom of Information reviews, C/O Chief Executive's Office, NHS Hampshire, Omega House, 112 Southampton Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire SO50 5PB.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot make a decision unless you have already exhausted NHS Hampshire's complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Wycliffe Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK6 5AF.

Further information about the Freedom of Information Act can be sourced on the Information Commissioner's website: <http://www.ico.gov.uk/> .

Yours sincerely

Debbie Broughall
Freedom of Information Officer