

➔ In Need of Emergency Treatment

A resident, following an accident, talks about her experience in accessing emergency treatment.

“On 2nd March at about 2pm I slipped on a cobbled side road in Epsom and banged my mouth on the road. This had the effect of pushing my two front teeth back, bruising my upper lip and knocking a side capped tooth out. On return to home my dentist was not available until Friday and suggested going to a hospital dental unit. We looked up the hospital dental units available, one at Guy's hospital and one at King's College hospital. The web site for Guy's suggested arriving by opening time (8am) to be assured of being seen that day. We went to Guy's, as opposed to King's because it is easier to get there from our home, arriving at 7.45am.



Emergency dentistry is available at various hospitals

There were about 4 people in front of us. The doors were opened at 7.55am and although we should have taken a ticket and hadn't, we filled out a form and remained 5th in the queue.

In Croydon's Chair

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The dental staff started by 9.00am and we were seen by 9.30am. By this time the waiting room was starting to fill up.

I was examined by a post-graduate. His examination was very thorough and he relayed his findings to a consultant dentist who shortly afterwards came to inspect herself.

She referred me to the X-ray unit close-by where after a short wait I had seven x-rays taken at various angles of my teeth. This showed a piece of the tooth that came out had gone into my upper lip (I was not aware of this because the lip was so swollen through the fall).

Upon checking the x-rays, the consultant conferred with King's College Hospital Restorative Dentistry and Traumatology Unit and I was referred to them. The post graduate dentist at Guy's was most helpful, looking up which bus to catch that went straight to King's from Guy's.



The dental nurse was very helpful

We arrived there about 1.30pm and were assisted by a very helpful dental nurse (we assumed that was what she was, she wore a navy blue uniform), who gave up half her lunch hour. We were seen shortly by the consultant. The conclusion was that due to the impact, the teeth couldn't be saved and I was referred back to my own dentist.

At all times the examinations were very thorough and professional and with a lot of consideration for my welfare.”

“Very thorough and professional.”

Get involved today and have your say!