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You are entitled to a copy of any letter we write about you. Please ask if you want one when you come to the hospital.

If you are unhappy with the advice you have been given by your GP, consultant, or another healthcare professional, you may ask for a second (or further) opinion.

The evidence used in the preparation of this leaflet is available on request. Please email: [patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk](mailto:patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk) if you would like a reference list.

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## Consultant Orthodontist Miss Annalise McNair

I have been asked by your dentist to see you or your child to provide advice or treatment about the position of the teeth and growth of the face. I hope that you will find the following notes helpful prior to your visit.

### Orthodontic Treatment

Orthodontic treatment usually involves the wearing of braces (removable or fixed) often with the extraction of teeth, by your dentist and occasionally jaw surgery. The main reasons for having orthodontic treatment are to improve the appearance, function and health of the teeth. The success of treatment depends not only on the skill of the Orthodontist, but also on the cooperation of the patient and parent.

### Consultation Appointment

The orthodontist will examine your mouth before sending you for radiographs (x-rays) if necessary. Any problems will be discussed with you along with the possible treatment options. These may include

- you do not need treatment because the position of your teeth is perfectly acceptable
- you are not ready for treatment and the orthodontist may ask your dentist to re-refer you when you are older
- your dental health is not good enough to begin treatment
- you are ready for treatment. You need to decide if you wish to go ahead.

The orthodontist will explain which treatment is best for you, the risks and benefits, and the estimated length of treatment.

### Where will treatment be carried out?

All patients are assessed using the nationally agreed Index of Orthodontic Treatment Need. If your treatment is complicated you will be offered treatment in this department. If your treatment is less complicated then you may be offered treatment by a specialist practitioner or dentist with an interest in Orthodontics.

### Appointments

Every effort is made to keep to time, but occasionally, due to unforeseen circumstances, this may not be possible. If the clinic is running late you will be informed on your arrival.

If you have any questions about your visit or further treatment, please do not hesitate to ask. It is important that you fully understand what is involved in having orthodontic treatment before you decide to go ahead.

[www.bos.org.uk](http://www.bos.org.uk)

**Orthodontic Department**  
**01722 336262 Ext. 3550 or 3527**