Dentistry in Warwickshire healthwatch

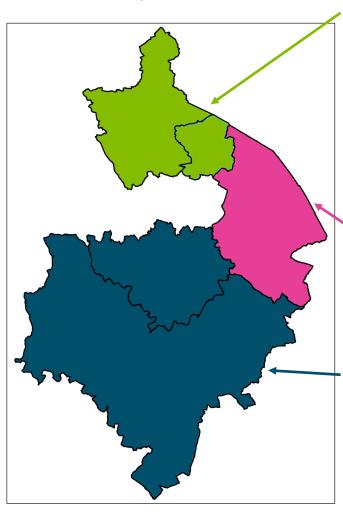


Our staff and volunteers telephoned dental practices across the County to understand how NHS patients could access treatment or if they could register.



In June 2021, we telephoned 53 practices in Warwickshire. 42 spoke to us. We asked: - if they were taking on new NHS patients, if there was a waiting list to register, how often they updated the NHS website, what provisions were in place for emergency treatment and if they still had the same number of dentists available as pre-pandemic.

Out of those who spoke to us we found out that:



Warwickshire North − 13 out of 15 dentists spoke to us.

7 out of 13 are taking on new patients.

2 said they had a waiting list for new patients but 3 said they would accept new patients on the spot.

7 said they would see a patient that day in an emergency, 12 would be referred to 111, and 1 said they operated an out of hours service.

Rugby - 7 out of 11 dentists spoke to us.

0 out of 7 dentists are taking on new patients.

1 said they had a waiting list of 12-18 months.

7 said they would refer to 111 for emergency treatment (1 said they and another practice offer out of hours and weekends on a rota basis)

South Warwickshire — 22 out of 27 practices spoke to us.

5 out of 22 are taking on new patients.

6 said they had a waiting list for new patients.

13 said they would refer to 111 for emergency treatment, 4 offered out of hours service and 2 had a dentist on call.



This work illustrates the picture of what dentistry provision is available in Warwickshire. It shows that there is a particular issue in Rugby where there are no NHS dentists taking on new patients. Across Warwickshire there seems to be an issue with NHS patients accessing dentistry.

Thank you to all the dentists who took part in this work.

This information will be shared with Healthwatch England who have published a national report on dentistry and with the Coventry and Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group to inform them of the provision available locally.

All information gathered for this report was correct at time of collection. Given changing guidelines and Government restrictions this may have changed. We continue to gather feedback on dentistry to reflect this.