

# Direct Access Policy

**Barton Dental Surgery and Implant Centre**

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Completed by: Ravi Kumar

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Our practice allows direct access by patients to the hygienist at the surgery. This document describes how these arrangements work within our practice.

Dental hygienists are registered dental professionals who help patients maintain their oral health by preventing and treating periodontal disease and promoting good oral health practice. They carry out treatment direct to patients or under prescription from a dentist. You are able to access dental hygiene care without the need to visit a dentist first.

Melissa Evans is indemnified with a dental indemnity company and registered with the General Dental Council.

Melissa Evans cannot diagnose or give the prognosis (the likely outcome) of diseases such as decaying or broken teeth, or prescribe antibiotics, painkillers or any other drug to alleviate symptoms.

If Melissa advises you to see a dentist, it is because she feels that it is in the interest of your oral health and is outside of the scope of what she is allowed to do. There are very rare circumstances when she cannot start treatment, and before she is able to continue, she may insist that a dentist assesses you. These may relate to your medical history and general health, or the condition of your mouth which gives her concern.

