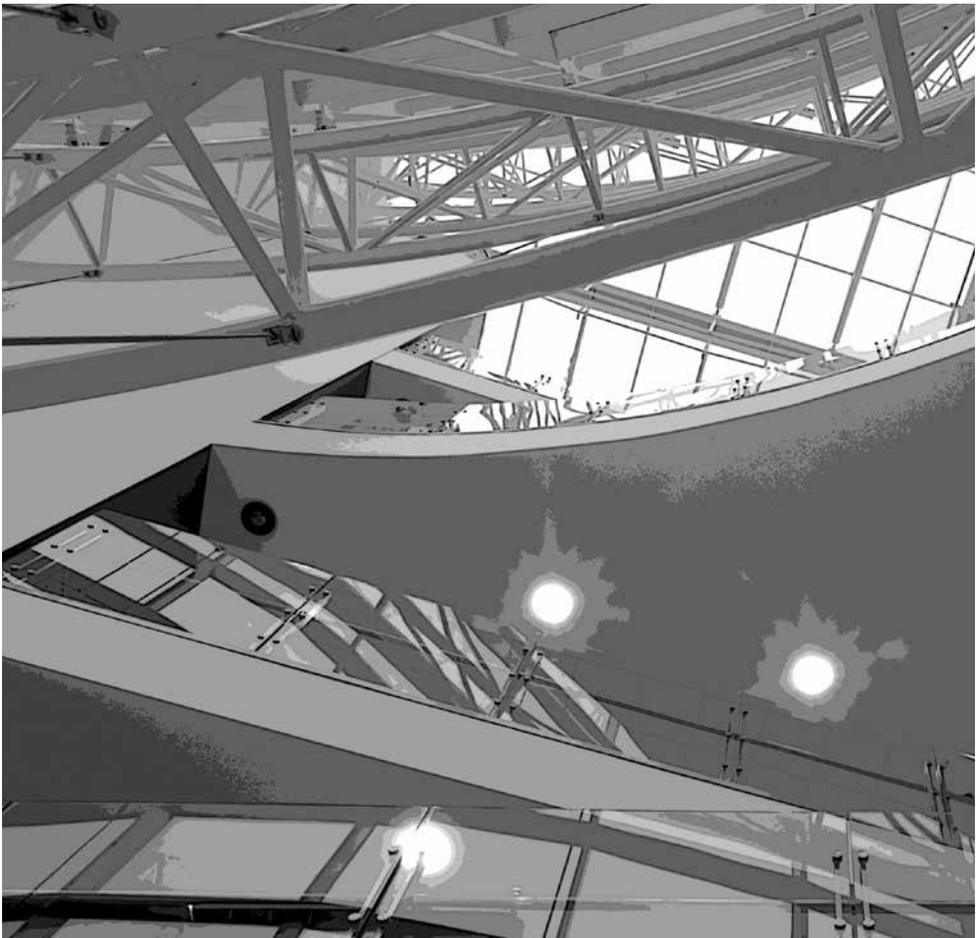


Oxford University Hospitals **NHS**  
NHS Foundation Trust

The West Wing

# Craniofacial Unit

Information for patients



[www.ouh.nhs.uk/craniofacial](http://www.ouh.nhs.uk/craniofacial)

## **Craniofacial Unit**

Level LG1

West Wing

John Radcliffe Hospital

Headley Way

Headington

Oxford OX3 9DU

Tel: 01865 231 085

Email: [craniofacial.unit@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto:craniofacial.unit@ouh.nhs.uk)

## What happens in the Craniofacial Clinic?

The Craniofacial Clinic is multidisciplinary. This means that several kinds of specialists are available in the clinic to help decide which is the best treatment for you or your child. Working as a team helps us to assess your needs faster and means that we can discuss the full range of options with you and decide on the most appropriate investigations and treatments.

You may also need to see a specialist in another clinic, for a particular aspect of your care. If you do, we will try our best to arrange all your appointments on one day, to save you making several trips to the hospital.

When you arrive at the hospital, please report to the reception desk in Plastic Surgery / ENT Outpatients on Level LG1 of the West Wing at the John Radcliffe Hospital. One of our specialist nurses will then guide you through the clinic process.

During your visit we may ask you to have X-rays, scans or photographs taken. These will all help to decide on the medical care you or child may need. After your first assessment, you may need to return to the clinic for further medical investigations or follow-up.

## The craniofacial team

Who you see during your visit will depend on your particular needs.

**Mr Steven Wall** and **Mr David Johnson** are consultant plastic and reconstructive surgeons. Their role is to assess how craniofacial problems are affecting the growth of a patient's skull and face and how surgery might help. Mr Johnson is Clinical Director of the craniofacial team.

**Mr Jay Jayamohan** and **Mr Shailendra Magdum** are consultant paediatric neurosurgeons. Their special area of interest is the nervous system in children, particularly the brain. Many of the conditions that we treat in the Unit are associated with problems in these areas, especially where there is restriction in the growth of the skull.

Our specialist children's nurses are **Kari Ashton** and **Abbie Nadel**. Their role is to guide families through the outpatient process and through any hospital admissions, working alongside the nursing staff on the children's wards. They also work closely with local health visitors and community nursing teams to ensure the best all-round care for our patients. They are available to discuss any queries you may have prior to your first visit or at any stage after that. Please feel free to telephone them at any time on 01865 231 003 / 231 083.

**Dr Jo Byren** is our Clinical Liaison Officer. Her role is to help organise appointments and tests and to ensure that patients and their families and all those involved with their care are kept up to date with treatment plans.

**Professor Andrew Wilkie** and **Dr Deirdre Cilliers** are consultant clinical geneticists. Some craniofacial conditions are caused by an alteration in one of the genes. The clinical genetics team provides advice on diagnosis, on the implications with regard to having further children, and on the availability of genetic tests for the conditions involved.

**Dr Louise Dalton, Dr Helen Care** and **Dr Sian Thomas** are clinical psychologists. Their role is to offer support to patients and their families at whatever age or stage of treatment it may be needed. They can offer time to discuss concerns about diagnosis, development, behaviour, self-image, and about how problems in these areas may be affecting life in the family, in the wider social world and at school.

Many of the conditions treated by the craniofacial team can affect the growth of the face and teeth. The members of the team who look after this are **Mr Peter Carls**, consultant maxillofacial surgeon, who specialises in the care of the face and jaw, and **Miss Mary McKnight**, consultant orthodontist, whose expertise lies in the area of growth of the teeth and jaws. If we think you or your child need help with this, you will be specially assessed, usually at a separate clinic held in the Department of Maxillofacial Surgery and Orthodontics.

Most of the patients who come to the Craniofacial Unit have their eyes assessed by the craniofacial orthoptist, who will check vision, assess how well the eyes work together (i.e. detect any squint) and whether the eye muscles are working normally. The orthoptists working with the craniofacial team are **Mrs Rachel Edminson** and **Ms Laura Breach**. One of the ophthalmologists working with the team, **Mr Jonathan Norris** or **Mr Darius Hildebrand**, may perform a more detailed examination of the eyes. The orthoptists will also work with local services if appropriate.

**Carrie Luscombe, Sarah Kilcoyne** and **Ben East**, our speech and language therapists, assess speech, language and communication. They monitor development in these areas and can provide advice where necessary. They can also assess and advise on difficulties with feeding and swallowing. Carrie, Sarah and Ben work closely with local speech and language therapy services to ensure patients receive a complete care package.

**Mr Pablo Martinez** (for adults) and **Mr James Ramsden** and **Miss Penny Lennox** (for children) are ear, nose and throat surgeons. They are asked to review any of our patients with problems or concerns related to these areas.

**Dr Russell Evans, Dr Sumit Das** and **Dr Stewart Campbell** are consultant paediatric anaesthetists. They will give the anaesthetic for children undergoing craniofacial surgery. They will meet the parents before the operation to explain how this is done and make plans for pain relief after the operation.

**Helen Williams** is the Service Support Manager. Her role is to work closely with all the professionals and nursing staff involved with the Unit. She makes sure administrative support is provided and that the service runs as smoothly and efficiently as possible.

**Judith Wood, Keith Phillips, Shahida Kiani** and **Jacky Jones** are the administrative staff in the craniofacial office. When you call, you will usually reach Judith, who will be happy to help you with your enquiries.

Registrars (doctors in training), medical and nursing students, and visiting specialists may also be present in the clinic.

It may not be necessary for you or your child to meet everyone. However, it is important that you have access to the support and specialist care that you and your child may need.

## Accommodation and transport

We are aware that you may have to travel some distance to the clinic. In some cases we may be able to arrange accommodation for you. To find out if we can, please telephone our office on 01865 231085. In some circumstances, the Trust will assist with transport costs.

## How do I get more information?

There are various websites that offer excellent information about craniofacial conditions. However, the information provided is intended as a resource and not as a means for you to diagnose yourself or your child. If you want to find out more about general craniofacial conditions, we recommend that you consult:

Headlines, a registered charity for craniofacial support

**[www.headlines.org.uk](http://www.headlines.org.uk)**

**[www.changingfaces.co.uk](http://www.changingfaces.co.uk)**

For more information about the Unit, please visit:

**[www.ouh.nhs.uk/craniofacial](http://www.ouh.nhs.uk/craniofacial)**

Alternatively, you can request further information from the team via the Craniofacial Unit secretary on 01865 231 085.

For more information about the John Radcliffe Hospital, please see the booklet 'John Radcliffe Hospital - information for patients' or visit [www.ouh.nhs.uk](http://www.ouh.nhs.uk)

We hope this leaflet has answered some of your questions, but please feel free to contact us if you would like any more information.

If you have a specific requirement, need an interpreter, a document in Easy Read, another language, large print, Braille or audio version, please call **01865 221 473** or email **[PALS@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto:PALS@ouh.nhs.uk)**

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