

Serial Extractions



What are serial extractions?

It is the correctly timed removal of certain baby and adult teeth when there is disharmony between the size of the adult teeth and the size of a child's jaw.

Why might my child need serial extractions?

- Adult teeth are wider than the baby teeth. Your child's jaw is still growing so there will be some expected imbalance when the adult teeth are trying to grow in.
- Sometimes the imbalance is too great and the adult tooth can come in very crooked or even become stuck.
- To avoid this or minimise its impact some extractions are planned to create space for the adult teeth to come into a better position.
- This does not guarantee that the adult teeth will move into the perfect position, but it may improve the chances of the adult teeth being in a more desirable position and may also decrease the future orthodontic treatment needs/time/complexity.

What is the next step?

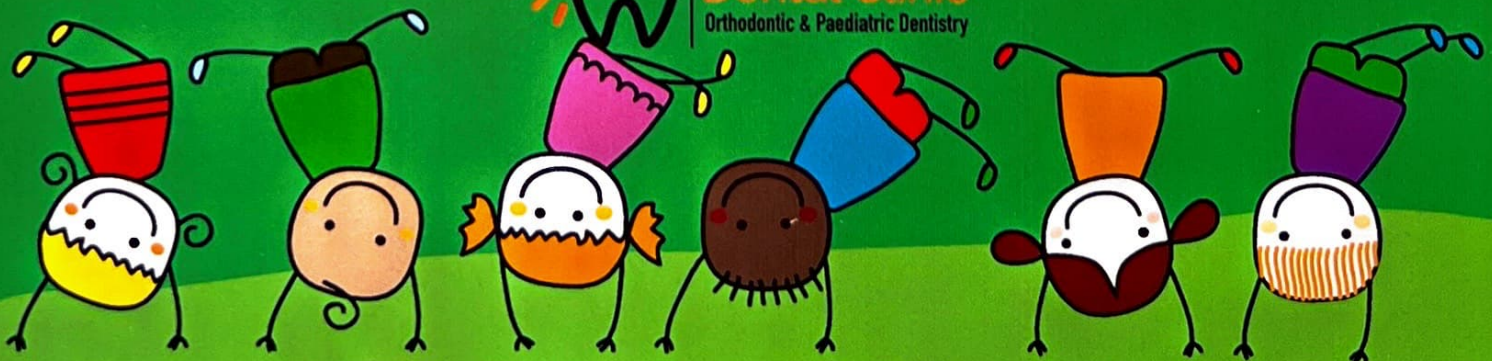
- Your dentist will always take an x-ray and carry out a thorough assessment before recommending any planned serial extraction treatment. Inhalation sedation is available to facilitate any extractions your child may require.

Benefits

- Might allow alignment of permanent teeth into a more stable position, with more adequate bone and gum support
- Might avoid damage to adult teeth adjacent to impacted teeth
- Might decrease treatment burden during future orthodontic treatment, if necessary it may be quicker, more affordable and possibly easier

Understandably the idea of your child having an extraction may feel overwhelming for you as a parent.

Your child's case will be fully explained by your dentist



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Joint Orthodontic & Paediatric Dentistry - Serial Extractions

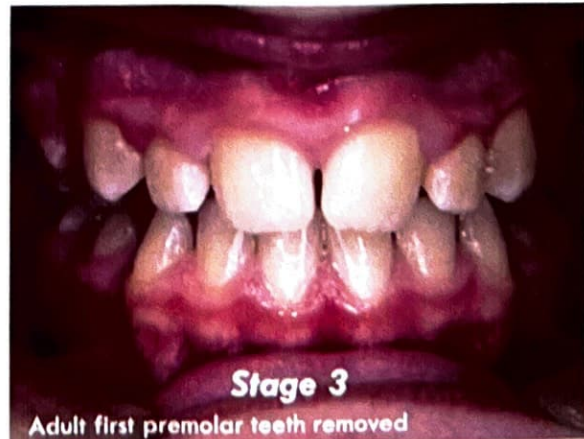


Stages



How are the extractions timed?

- In a child who will need this treatment, not all baby teeth will be removed at once. extractions will be done in stages.
- Generally, the first stage of extractions of the baby canine teeth, is between 7-9 years.
- Then the next 2 years, the child is under observation.
- Extraction of the first baby molar and the first adult premolar are later planned according to their growth.
- When all the remaining adult teeth have grown in, then they will be assessed for any further orthodontic treatment needed.



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