

Minimising Your Visits - How We Make Specialist Care Work for Regional Patients

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Description:

Minimising Your Visits - How We Make Specialist Care Work for Regional Patients Travelling to Melbourne for dental treatment is a commitment, especially if you live hours away. At Collins Street Sp...

Details:

Travelling to Melbourne for dental treatment is a commitment, especially if you live hours away. At Collins Street Specialist Centre, we understand that every trip to the city represents time off work, travel costs and disruption to your routine. That is why we have structured our practice to minimise the number of visits regional patients need, while still delivering the highest standard of specialist care.

Appointment Consolidation - Multiple Specialists in One Day

The biggest advantage of having all six dental specialties under one roof is the ability to schedule multiple consultations on the same day. If your case involves more than one specialist, our patient coordinators can arrange back-to-back appointments so you see everyone you need to see in a single Melbourne visit.

For example, if you need an orthodontic assessment and an oral surgery consultation, we can book both for the same morning. If your treatment plan involves periodontics, prosthodontics and endodontics, we can coordinate all three specialists to see you during one visit to our Collins Street practice.

This is not something you can easily do when seeing individual specialists scattered across different suburbs or towns. At CSSC, it happens routinely because all our specialists work from the same location at Level 8, Manchester Unity Building.

Digital Records Shared Before You Arrive

Before your appointment, our specialists review your case together. Your CBCT 3D imaging, clinical photographs, digital scans and treatment notes are all stored in our integrated CareStack system. When you sit down with a specialist, they already know your history and have studied your imaging.

This means less time repeating your story to multiple clinicians and more time discussing treatment options. It also means that when specialists need to confer about your case, they are looking at the same imaging and records - not relying on printed referral letters or posted X-rays.

If you have recent imaging from your local dentist, we can often incorporate that into your file before your visit, reducing the need for duplicate scans.

One Comprehensive Treatment Plan

In traditional specialist care, each specialist creates their own plan in isolation. An orthodontist writes an orthodontics plan. A surgeon writes a surgery plan. A prosthodontist writes a restoration plan. The patient is left to coordinate between them, hoping the plans align.

At CSSC, we take a different approach. Through our peer review model, your specialists collaborate to create one comprehensive treatment plan. This plan accounts for the sequencing and timing of each phase, anticipates how one treatment affects another, and gives you a clear roadmap from start to finish.

For regional patients, this means fewer surprises, fewer unexpected additional visits, and a treatment timeline you can plan around.

Virtual and Telehealth Follow-ups

Not every appointment requires you to be physically present. Where clinically appropriate, CSSC offers virtual follow-up consultations. These can be used for:

- Post-operative check-ins after surgery, where the specialist needs to assess healing and answer questions
- Orthodontic monitoring between adjustment appointments
- Treatment planning discussions and consent
- Review of imaging results and specialist recommendations

Telehealth consultations reduce the number of trips to Melbourne while keeping you connected to your specialist team. Your specialist will always advise when an in-person visit is necessary - some assessments simply cannot be done remotely - but where virtual follow-up is clinically appropriate, we offer it.

Surgery in One Location

If your treatment involves a surgical procedure - whether that is wisdom teeth removal, dental implant placement, bone grafting or jaw surgery - everything happens in one location. CSSC has in-house surgical suites equipped with CBCT 3D imaging, dental microscopes and sedation facilities including IV sedation and general anaesthesia.

You will not be bounced between a surgeon's rooms for the procedure, a separate imaging centre for scans, and a third location for follow-up. Your pre-operative planning, surgery and post-operative care all happen at Level 8, 220 Collins Street.

Planning Your Visits

When you contact CSSC, let our patient coordinators know that you are travelling from regional Victoria. They will work with you to:

- Schedule multiple specialist consultations on the same day wherever possible
- Identify which appointments genuinely require an in-person visit versus those that can be handled via telehealth
- Provide a realistic estimate of the total number of Melbourne visits your treatment will require
- Time your appointments to align with V/Line train schedules or allow for comfortable drive times

Our goal is to give you the same quality of specialist care as a patient who lives five minutes away, without requiring you to make that trip more often than necessary.

Getting Here

Collins Street Specialist Centre is located at Level 8, Manchester Unity Building, 220 Collins Street, Melbourne - at the corner of Collins and Swanston Streets, directly above Melbourne Central Station. Whether you arrive by V/Line, drive in and park nearby, or combine your appointment with other city errands, the location is among the most accessible in the Melbourne CBD.

No Referral Required

You do not need a referral from your local dentist to book an appointment. Contact us directly and we will guide you through the process. If your local dentist has provided records or imaging, we are happy to incorporate that into your file.

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