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Local Medical Committees
Incorporating Wessex LEaD



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Smoking Cessation Prior To Surgery

It is good practice that any patient we refer should be advised of the significant health benefits of smoking cessation. This article provides links to some useful documents that may help you with this. The LMC view is that we support this good practice. We do not support anything that interrupts the referral process.

Smoking up to the time of any surgery increases cardiac and pulmonary complications, impairs tissue healing and is associated with more infections and other complications at the surgical site.

The NHS has produced a series of easy to digest information aimed at secondary care clinicians with useful information on why it makes sense to encourage patients to stop. You may find these links useful and educational:

A General Guide:

[Why should patients be encouraged to quit prior to surgery?](#)

Specific to Specialities:

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